

Talks hint of concession to Unionists

The Prime Minister yesterday held a private Commons meeting with two of Ulster's elder statesmen...



Ian Botham and his wife, Kathy, enjoying a drink at their hotel in Antigua after her arrival yesterday.

Electronic experts disbanded

An advisory panel on technology, created five years ago by the Cabinet Office to help the Prime Minister formulate policies for the electronics industry...

Surprise growth in lending hits base rate hopes

Optimism in the money markets over lower base rates did not fade completely, however, after absorbing the disappointing figures...

Halted nuclear test set up again

The United States went ahead yesterday with plans to detonate an underground nuclear explosion in the Nevada Desert...

House prices surge in spring

Substantial increases in house prices are being forecast as lower mortgage rates and the warmer weather encourage people to move home more readily...

Tomorrow

Rocket men: It is 25 years since Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space. How did the Russians turn science fiction into fact? Pocket money: How much, how soon?

France to toughen anti-terror laws

Measures to crack down on terrorism, including the introduction of a 30-year prison sentence and the establishment of a special court to try suspected terrorists...

Italy admits wine laws inadequate

He said official machinery had "seized up" because of administrative costs. He suggested, however, that even a more efficient structure might not have avoided the scandal...

Germans expel two Libyan diplomats

Bonn - West Germany expelled two Libyan diplomats yesterday, four days after the terrorist bombing of a disco in West Berlin which killed two people and injured more than 200 others...

Dirty tricks finish for poll fight at Fulham

With Labour clear favourite to win today's Fulham by-election, the Conservative and Alliance camps indulged in a mild eye-for-poll dirty tricks campaign yesterday aimed at winning second place...

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio daily competition prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr P. Dunkley, of Rugby. Portfolio list, page 28; how to play, information service, page 20; Portfolio relaunch, page 3.

Files seen

Representatives of Israel and Austria were allowed yesterday to inspect the secret UN files on Dr Kurt Waldheim's record in the Second World War.

Bhutto return

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Young pioneer

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Art chief quits

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Home News 2-4, Overseas 5-9, Arts 10, Births, deaths, marriages 11, Books 12, Business 21-23, Chess 4, Court 18, Crosswords 19, Diary 12, Features 10-12, Leaders 13, Letters 13, Obituary 18, Parliament 4-20, Sale Room 18, Science 18, Show Reports 20, Sport 26-49, Theatres, etc 20, TV & Radio 20, Weather 20

'EastEnders' criticized by coroner over suicide attempt scene

The producers of the BBC series *EastEnders* which featured an episode showing an attempted suicide were criticized by the Wilshire coroner yesterday at an inquest into the death of a girl aged 17 who took a drugs overdose.

Bootprint clue led to charge for policeman

The tell-tale bootprint on the shirt of a dead prisoner led to a police sergeant's being charged with the man's murder, a court was told yesterday.



'The Marquesa de Santa Cruz', the \$8 million Goya painting alleged to have been exported illegally from Spain, behind bars at Christie's yesterday for a pre-sale exhibition (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Time to go for gold with Portfolio

With the relaunch of *The Times Portfolio* competition next Monday as *Portfolio Gold*, this Saturday will be the last day on which the present blue Portfolio cards can be used.

Portfolio

Details about the new game and how it will be played will appear in *The Times* tomorrow. *Portfolio Gold* is sure to increase demand for *The Times* and readers are urged to make sure their copy is ordered at the newsagent.

Computer to issue alert for children

Extra measures are being taken to stop 'tug of love' children being smuggled out of the country, the Home Office announced yesterday.

Cardinal 'in satanist rites'

Self-styled satanist Derry Mainwaring Knight yesterday claimed he had been ordained into the black arts by a cardinal.

Child care training 'urgent'

Britain's social workers urgently need a £30 million in-house training scheme to upgrade child care services over the next five years, according to the Association of Directors of Social Services.

Disabled hindered by waiting lists

An "unacceptably large" number of people in Britain remain blind, deaf or physically handicapped because of over-long waiting lists for surgery, a group of medical specialists has reported.

Man faces death inquiry

An Army corporal serving with the United Nations forces in Cyprus was flown back to Britain yesterday after being questioned by Scotland Yard detectives investigating the death of a Surrey publican (Siewert Tandler writes).

Fears over more TV channels

By David Hewson
Mr Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, predicted yesterday that the availability of more television channels may not lead to much greater choice for the viewer.

400 superstores and many more to come

By Derek Harris
Although Britain's superstores now number about 400, with signs of saturation of markets in the North, the tide of planned openings is still running strongly. There is also an unexpected jump in planned openings of smaller stores.

Comic's son on killing charge

The son of the television comedian Mike Reid was remanded in custody yesterday by Saffron Walden magistrates. Essex, charged with killing his best friend.

Nuclear food radiation may be standard

The nuclear radiation of foods to extend their shelf-life is likely to become standard practice after an investigation by medical researchers (Thomson Prentice writes).

Injunctions on bootleg Beatle songs

Northern Songs, which owns the copyright in early Beatles' songs, was granted injunctions in the High Court yesterday against an alleged 'bootlegger' of Beatles' works.

Detention for sister killer

A former soldier who killed his sister was ordered yesterday to be detained for treatment at Broadmoor after admitting manslaughter with diminished responsibility.

Warning not to use lie tests

The British Psychological Society said yesterday that it may discipline any of its members who carry out lie detector tests for the Government.

£1m gift helps to stage opera

An opera-lover's £1 million gift to the Royal Opera House will help to pay for the new production of Beethoven's *Fidelio* at Covent Garden this summer.

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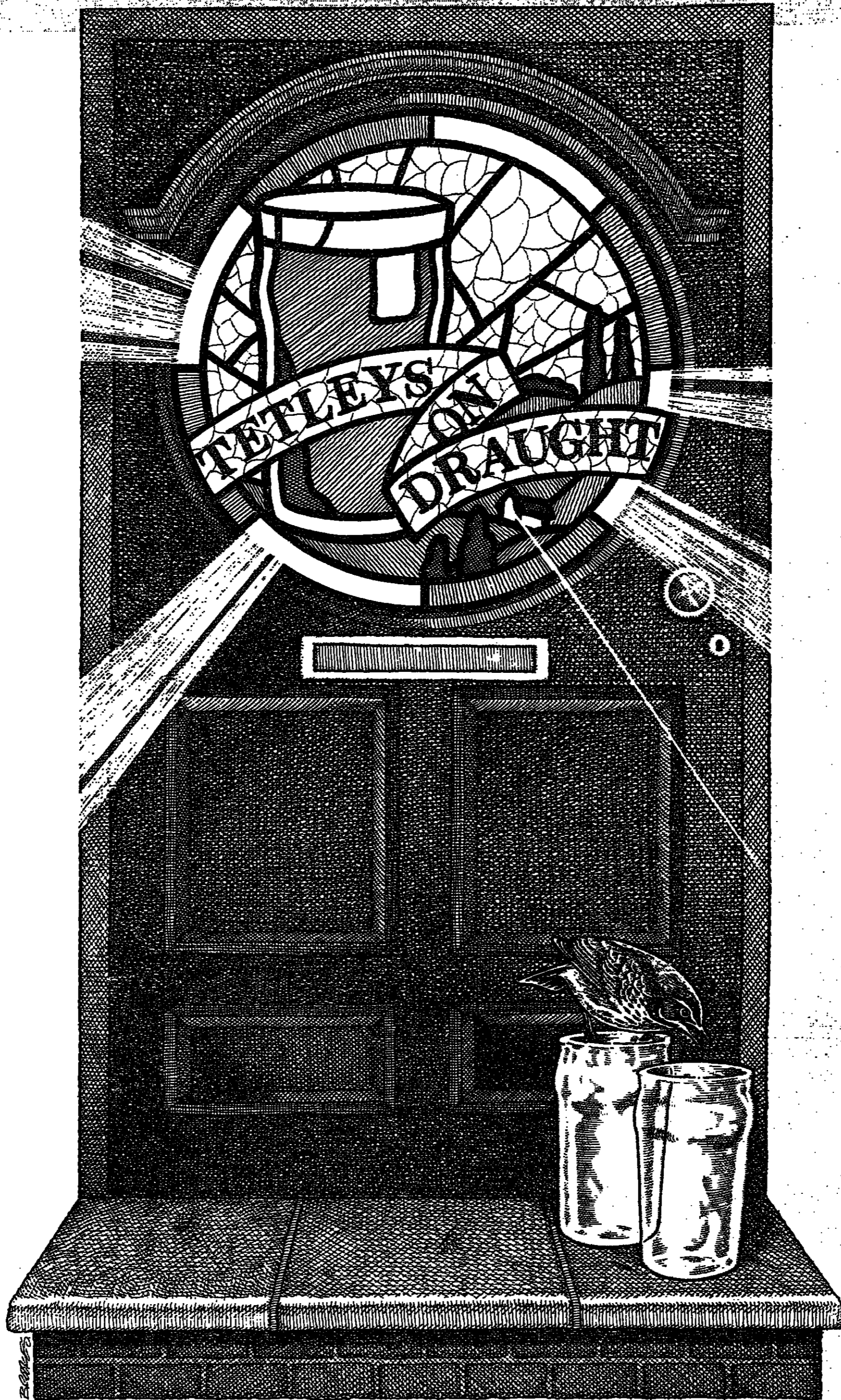
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Mitterrand in his first clash with Chirac over privatization plan

President Mitterrand and M Jacques Chirac, the new Gaullist Prime Minister, had their first serious public clash yesterday when Mitterrand announced he would not sign decrees on the privatization of companies or institutions nationalized before the Socialists came to power in 1981.

Mitterrand's statement, made public by an Elysee Palace spokesman, was made during yesterday's Cabinet meeting, at which M Chirac's plans to privatize by decree more than 50 companies and institutions - including banks and insurance companies nationalized by General de Gaulle immediately after the Second World War - were approved.

It is not yet clear how M Chirac intends to bypass the presidential veto. However, he may choose in the short term simply to concentrate on the companies nationalized by the Socialists in 1981 and 1982, including eight large industrial groups whose privatization President Mitterrand has indicated he will not obstruct, provided nothing is done to diminish the "democratization" of those companies.

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M Mitterrand also indicated willingness to sign the proposed decree to repeal Socialist legislation on proportional representation and to bring back the system of two-ballot majority voting.

The only condition he laid down yesterday was that the advice of the consultative commission, which is to be set up to redraw constituency boundaries, be made public.

The Cabinet approved two enabling Bills to allow the Government to bypass Parliament and legislate by decree on majority voting and on a series of economic and social measures, including privatization, new anti-monopoly laws and incentives for job creation.

M Alain Juppé, the government spokesman, said that a commission would be set up to propose anti-monopoly legislation to be adopted by decree within six months, paving the way for abolition of all price controls.

The Government has already promised to lift immediately the remaining price controls in the industrial sector and 75 per cent of those in commerce.

But prices in the service

sector are to remain strictly controlled until the new anti-monopoly legislation comes into force.

On job creation, the Government is proposing to exonerate employers from paying social security contributions on behalf of workers involved in retaining schemes or young people for whom jobs are created.

The Government also plans to legislate by decree to allow much greater flexibility of working patterns, including a relaxation of the restrictions on fixed term contracts and part-time work.

Surprisingly, M Juppé said nothing about the controversial proposals to allow employers to lay off redundant workers without first having to seek government approval.

The measures approved by the Cabinet lie at the heart of the Government's proposed overall programme, which was spelled out later in the day by M Chirac in an impassioned speech lasting more than one hour.

The speech formed the basis for the motion of confidence in the Government on which deputies were due to vote late last night.



The French Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, outlining his programme to Parliament in an impassioned speech.

£250,000 reward on tycoon's murder

From Mario Modiano Athens

Greece is offering the equivalent of £250,000 for information leading to the arrest of the man who shot dead Mr Dimitris Angelopoulos, a 79-year-old industrialist, in central Athens on Tuesday.

A sketch of the killer has been circulated.

The murder has been claimed by the extremist "17 November" organization, which says it has carried out more than 10 political assassinations in Athens since 1975.

A stolen motorcycle, used by the killer and his accomplice for their escape, was found by police yesterday parked not far from the scene of the murder.

Mr Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, who cut short an official visit to China after the killing, said that his Government was determined to get at the "so-called intellectuals" who instigated the assassination "to strike at efforts to stabilize the economy".

A 13-page proclamation signed "17 November", left at the scene, purported to analyse the Greek economic crisis and put the blame on the 100 rich Greek families, to one of which the victim belonged.

President Chun's British visit

Downing St talks on Korea trade

By Simon Scott Plummer

East-West relations, the world economy, and bilateral links between South Korea and Britain were discussed by President Chun Doo Hwan and Mrs Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday.

In what was described as a very friendly meeting lasting just under two hours, the two leaders talked about the tense situation on the Korean peninsula, the new round of Gatt negotiations, prospects for next month's economic summit in Tokyo and Anglo-Korean trade.

A Downing Street spokesman said Mrs Thatcher did not raise the question of human rights in South Korea, as requested by Amnesty International, at the morning meeting. But at a dinner on Tuesday she had said: "We know that since your election as President you have in fact, in the face of such difficulties, made great efforts to move towards a full democratic system, and we wish you well in this for the future in your determination to continue a stable constitution."

The two leaders said they were looking forward to continuing their discussions next month, when Mrs Thatcher visits Seoul before going to the Tokyo summit.

Yesterday afternoon President Chun, on the third day of the first official visit by a Korean head of state to Britain, toured the British Aerospace works at Hatfield, Hertfordshire. There he saw BA's 146 jetliner and the Hawk trainer in action, the Rapier SeaWolf and Sea Skua missile systems, a communications satellite model and a full-scale mock-up of the attack version of the Hawk.

Earlier yesterday, Dr Kim Mahn Je, the South Korean Deputy Prime Minister, met Mr Paul Channon, the British Trade and Industry Secretary. A DTI spokesman said Mr Channon asked Dr Kim to lower tariffs on imports of Scotch whisky and to provide better protection for foreign copyright holders.

Trade between Britain and South Korea was worth nearly £730 million last year, with a £233 million surplus in the Koreans' favour.

In a separate meeting, Mr Chon Hak Za, the South Korean Minister for Science and Technology, and Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, signed a memorandum of understanding on scientific and technological co-operation.

Zia cast in role of Marcos

Miss Benazir Bhutto, aged 32, left exile in Britain for her homeland yesterday vowing to try to repeat Mrs Aquino's success in overthrowing President Marcos in the Philippines.

She said she was optimistic about replacing President Zia ul-Haq, who ordered the execution of her father, the former Prime Minister, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Nearly 200 Pakistanis, many of them fellow-exiles, crowded round her as she arrived at Gatwick airport, and police had to clear a way through the passenger terminal.

She said, of the frequent comparisons between herself and the Philippines' Mrs Aquino, that there were differences and similarities.

"I admire Mrs Aquino - she has tenacity and courage, and tremendous political understanding. I hope to do the same thing in my country," she said.

"The difference is that Mrs Aquino had the support of the church, whereas the church in Pakistan has identified itself with the establishment."

She said of the crowds which had greeted her: "I feel their excitement and hope is something which reflects the excitement we will find in Pakistan."

Of the need for early elections (before 1990, when President Zia has said he expects to quit), she commented: "If the people of the country want elections, I feel it is better to have these elections than for people to seek a solution outside the system."

Islamabad gives help to Bhutto

From Michael Hamlyn Lahore

In an astonishing reversal of previous practice, the Pakistani authorities are co-operating with the local leadership of the opposition Pakistan People's Party to enable a trouble-free return to the country this morning of the party's acting president, Miss Benazir Bhutto.

Since martial law was lifted in December, official attitudes to political protests have been transformed, with the exception of a dispute over the flying of flags on the Mall, the road leading from the cantonment to the town centre.

The local administration is meeting PPP officials to clear up points about access to the airport tarmac, the policing of the route into town for Miss Bhutto's procession, and about details of the mass rally which will be held outside the walls of the old city.

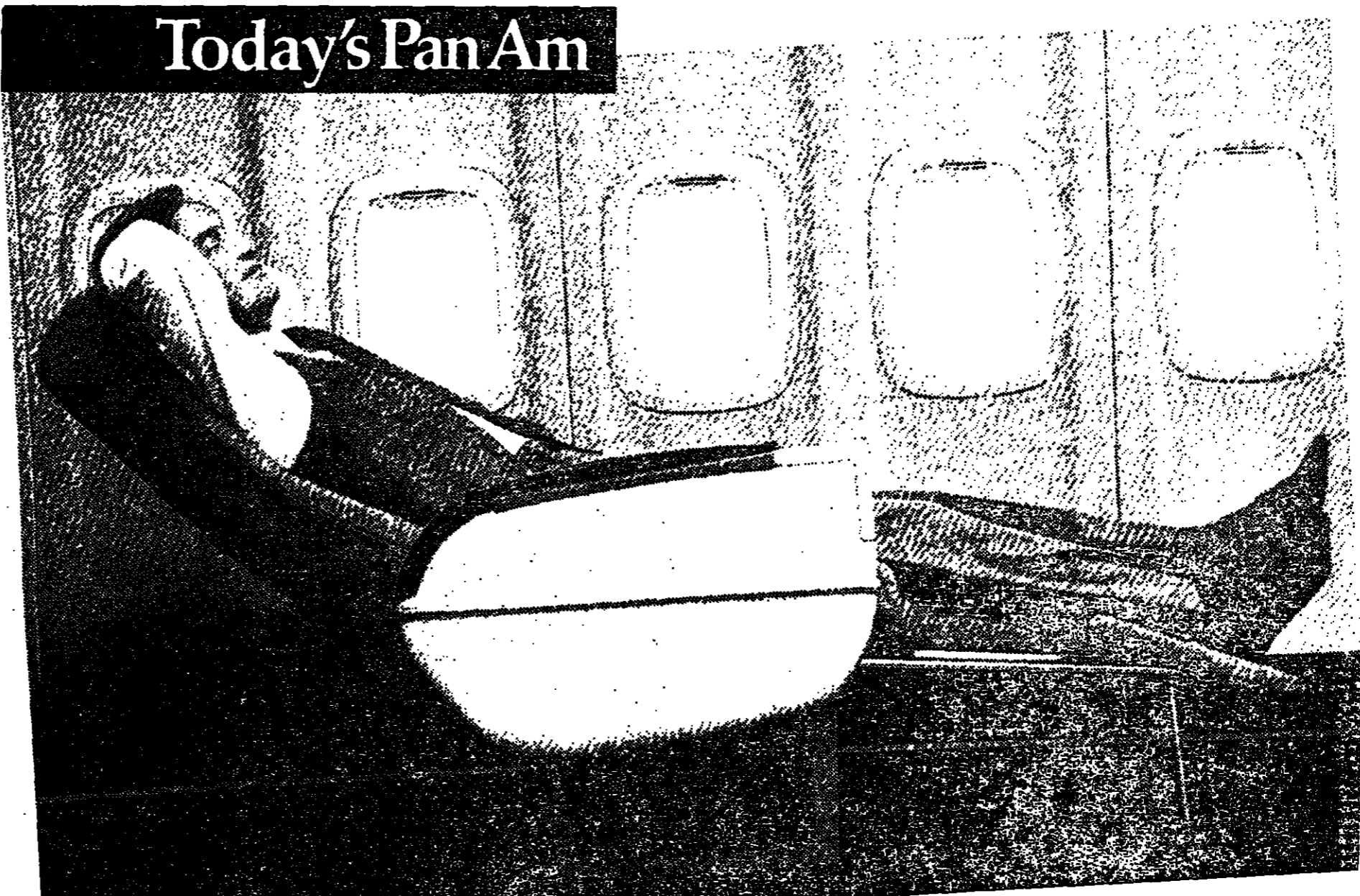
PPP workers spent Tuesday evening hanging striped flags (red for socialism, black for protest and green for Islam) on ceremonial flagpoles along the procession route. The authorities spent the rest of the night taking them down again.

They have not been able to stop the flags flying in the old town.

All around, massive hoardings are being erected bearing Miss Bhutto's portrait, as well as that of her father, the hanged Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Today's mass rally will be the first of a series over the next few days.

Triumph or tragedy, page 12



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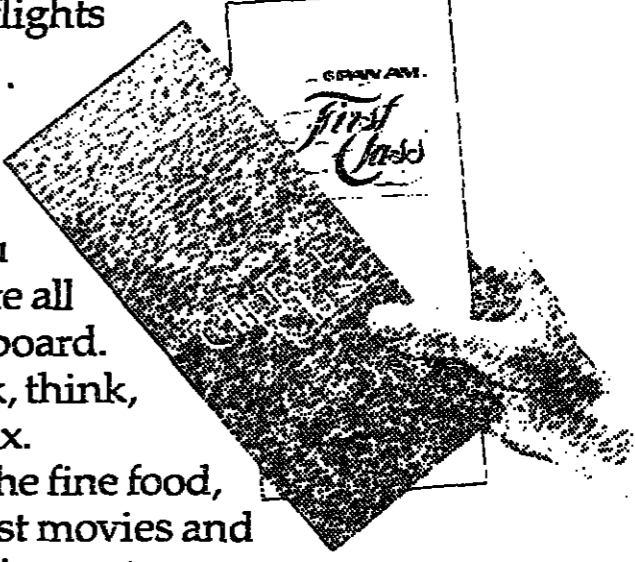
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Berlinguer's heirs hit by uncertainty

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Italian Communist Party's national congress opened yesterday in Florence with a commemoration of "departed comrades." In a macabre way that can be seen as one of the principal elements in the debates to come, because the most eminent Communist to have died recently is Enrico Berlinguer, the party leader.

This is the seventeenth congress of the West's largest Communist Party, and the first in its history to have been called before the normal period of four years between congresses had elapsed. In Italian superstitious thinking 17 is an unlucky number, like 13 elsewhere.

One reason why this Congress is being closely watched is to see whether the Communists will succeed in giving their party a convincing political platform.

Their world has changed radically and generally for the worse since their last national congress in Milan three years ago, when Signor Berlinguer was in complete control. He died of a stroke during the European election campaign of 1984.

The main reason why the Communists attract so much attention is that, despite recent setbacks, they still control 30 per cent of the electorate. Their essential problem is that they are uncertain and divided over how to make use of this massive support.

Their actual membership is a little under 1,600,000, which gives some indication of the unwieldiness of their popular vote. In the European elections they achieved, for the first time in their history, a higher vote than the Christian Democrats and by a half's breadth were the largest party, in voting terms, in the country.

Some of their success was ascribed to the emotional effect on the electorate of Signor Berlinguer's dramatic death. They have since performed disappointingly in local elections, and they lost a referendum on wages policy which they were convinced they would win.

The new party secretary, Signor Alessandro Natta, has made little impact on the country, and one of the expected decisions to be taken by the congress is the appointment of a vice-secretary. Should this be, as most people believe, Signor Achille Occhetto, the party in effect will have chosen its future secretary.

The leadership's main problem, however, is not just to fill the void left by Signor Berlinguer's untimely death. He died when his policies were already looking substantially weakened, and now very little can be said to remain.

He was the inventor of Euro-Communism, and that is a concept which has passed almost entirely from the scene. He brought the party officially into a coalition government's parliamentary majority, but at the moment his party looks further than ever from even repeating this halfway house on the road to entering government.

He also took the party near to the brink of a serious break with the Soviet Union, but now it is re-establishing a friendly relationship with the current leadership in Moscow.

Signor Natta took over an inheritance already open to question, and he has seen the party's political influence diminished by the basic hostility of the Socialist-led coalition, as well as the loss of participation in many regional and local administrations.

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Problems of the Lone Star state

Slump turns Houston's song of pride into a sad case of the blues

The news from Houston these days is generally bad, and will grow worse before it gets better.

As Houstonians drive the freeways towards the city's fantastic skyscraper heart, symbol of Texas wealth and power, they listen to a popular Country and Western dirge which says that "this old redneck sure is feelin' blue".

Many Texans reckon it could be a theme for their oil slump times.

News bulletins provide fresh ingredients for dismay - lay-off and closures, rising unemployment, record mortgage defaults, bank losses and failure, welfare services under pressure, the middle class in a pinch, and food queues.

Every Monday morning Texans make a vital check on their economic pulse. They telephone a Houston number for the latest rig count, a report on the number of oil rigs drilling in the United States.

Today the count is as dismal as an England cricket score. In Houston's roaring heyday as America's oil capital in the early 1980s, it reached more than 4,500. This week it is 987, 47 down on last week and down from 1,898 in the same week last year.

There was a time when the jobs sections of Houston newspapers were eagerly sought after in the rusting cities of the north and rental vans headed in the direction of Texas to the gold at the end of the freeway. Today the vans head out and the newspapers advertise classes on "finding work in the new economy" and "surviving your job search".

From Trevor Fishlock, Houston

In the heart of town, where the skyscrapers thrust up like fists, property dealers' signs are everywhere. Buildings are half-empty and offices can be had for a song from dealers desperate to rent.

A spate of mortgage foreclosures, up 74 per cent on last year, fills the market with cheap houses. The millionaire's mansion market has been hit, too.

For those with an opportunistic bent, it is a good time to drive bargains in Houston over property, cars, hotel rooms, machinery and oil rigs.

On the Gulf Coast there is the weird spectacle of scores of gigantic rigs, worth \$25 million (£16.6 million) and now idle, parked in clusters like monuments to boom and bust.

Many specialists in oil and banking think that the great Texas recession will worsen in the next year or two, with unemployment in Houston climbing above its present 9.6 per cent, and greater pressure on banks already over-stretched.

Houston, America's fourth city, is prickly about the publicity it is getting, and was wounded by the recent Wall Street Journal report that it is mentally depressed. The city detected a gloating note, but Texans are reminded that in the days of oil boom hubris they sported bumper stickers saying "Drive at 90, freeze a Yankee".

At a tough time like this it may seem like brave whistling for a number of Houstonians to assert an old Texan optimism and say that the nightmare will pass. But one effect of the crisis is that the oil and other businesses are having to become fighting fit or die.

And this is a Darwinian time of adaptation and consolidation. Opportunists are still moving into oil. A small well, producing a few barrels a day and showing a profit, can be had for \$8,000.

Meanwhile, Houston is striving to diversify its economy, which is 80 per cent oil-fired. It is building on the bases of the medical, shipping and space industries, all government initiatives in a fanatically free-enterprise state, which provides important stability and variety.

Most of all, Houston is a vigorous and resourceful place. It has known worse times, and boom and bust are the strong thread in its history. Like the Texan hero in the film, Houston has been knocked down but is determined to get up.

Eastwood voted mayor by a landslide

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

The blue-haired matron who stepped out of the voting booth in California's tiny oceanside town of Carmel snatched it all up as she was confronted by television crews from New York, Tokyo, France, Japan and Australia.

There seems little doubt that Mr Clint Eastwood, aged 55, actor and concerned businessman, has ambitions outside the picturesque tourist town he has called home for the past 14 years.

The lean Mr Eastwood ousted the incumbent mayor of four years, Mrs Charlotte Townsend, by a landslide. For the job that will pay him \$200 (£133) a month - he usually collects closer to \$6 million per film - he romped home with 2,166 votes (72 per cent) to the 799 (26.6 per cent) of Mrs Townsend. It was no contest.

There were almost as many reporters as there were voters at the makeshift press headquarters to record the new mayor's immortal lines after the votes had been counted.

"I'm taking a two-year hiatus from films," he said. "This is one politician who doesn't have ambitions to leave Carmel. This is where I belong."

Election day in the sunny beach town was like fiesta. Hundreds of tourists jammed



Clint Eastwood making a victory speech after being elected Mayor of Carmel, California.

into a roped-off street for a glimpse of the star and then surrounded the polling station when the beaming actor arrived to cast his vote.

"Eastwood for Mayor" T-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, picture books and coffee mugs and embroidered sweat-

ers sold briskly. There wasn't a room to be had in town.

Mr Eastwood spent more than \$40,000 to win the two-year job compared with the \$3,000 spent by his opponent. He commissioned his own voter survey of issues - he wants to encourage business

growth in Carmel's usually conservative climate.

Each day he was out, going from door to door, signing autographs and exchanging chit-chat at neighbourhood coffee sessions and breakfast debates.

US makes record arms deal with China

Peking (Reuters) - American arms dealers have sold \$550 million (about £360 million) worth of military equipment to China in the biggest deal ever made between the Communist regime and Western suppliers.

Western diplomats say, however, that Peking's hard cash shortage may curb further purchases.

Foreign experts say that the sale of advanced electronic equipment for China's fighter jets is an important step, but not a breakthrough in its drive to modernize its armed forces.

"It's only symbolic, a new small step forward," said one Western diplomat.

Under the deal announced on Tuesday, Peking will buy \$10 million (£6.7 million) worth of avionics sets for 55 F 8 fighters, similar in design to the Soviet MiG 23.

Britain, France and Italy have been trying to sell China military equipment for several years, with little success.

China's few military imports over the past few years include 30 Dauphin helicopters and long-range radar from France and American Sikorsky helicopters.

Attack on wife of police chief

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Swedish police were searching yesterday for two men who attacked the wife of Mr Hans Holmner, the Stockholm police chief leading the hunt for the assassin of the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Olof Palme.

Mrs Ingrid Holmner was dragged into a ditch and threatened as she was jogging near home in the Stockholm suburb of Huddinge on Tuesday night.

The two men escaped by car. Police refused to comment on the contents of the threats.

Mrs Holmner was taken to hospital for treatment for minor cuts and bruises but later was allowed to go home.

On April 3 a man walked up to her on a main street in Stockholm and told her she should "watch out". She said he resembled a photo-reconstruction of one of the men sought for possible involvement in Mr Palme's murder.

Although flowers and a flaming gas torch have been removed from the pavement in central Stockholm where Mr Palme was shot dead on February 28, hundreds of people continue to visit the spot, leaving new flowers and tributes, so many that the pavement has subsided 15 cm, according to the Highways Department.

A permanent monument to Mr Palme will be built at the spot. Discussions on what form it should take are continuing between his family, members of the Social Democratic Party of which he was leader, and the city council.

He was the champion of peace and nuclear disarmament and one suggestion being considered is for a dove of peace carved in a paving stone.

Royal Navy locked out by NZ Bill

From Richard Long, Wellington

Lady Young, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, yesterday indicated that proposed New Zealand legislation banning visits by nuclear-armed ships would make it difficult for Royal Navy ships to visit, although they could still go to China, which has the same policy.

Before leaving for Australia after a three-day visit to New Zealand, Lady Young said it was legislation now before the New Zealand Parliament that made the difference, as it required a breach of the "neither confirm nor deny" policy on the presence of nuclear weapons.

She said the legislation required Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, to be satisfied that visiting ships were not nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered. This, she said, was a de facto breach of the policy.

But Lady Young did not explain how Royal Navy ships could visit China - a destroyer and frigate are due to visit Shanghai in July - which also has a policy of not accepting ships carrying nuclear arms.

She insisted, however, that Britain had not wavered from its policy for the China visit but had an agreement with China. "You are quite right in saying we have an agreement with China and there will be ship visits to China."

She declined to say whether this meant that Peking had not asked if the visiting ships were nuclear-armed, saying such a scenario was "an interpretation."

"The fact of the matter is that a number of countries have policies on these issues and we understand those policies and they understand ours." Britain had not compromised its policy over the planned visit by Royal Navy ships to China, she emphasized.

Smith faces censure for 'insulting blacks'

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, faces the censure of Zimbabwe's Parliament after the publication of a report which holds him in contempt of Parliament for insulting blacks.

It is the most serious threat to his 38-year political career. Parliament has the power to suspend, expel or even jail him. A select committee tabled its report this week on remarks made by Mr Smith in October last year in a BBC television interview. The committee concluded that his words were "derogatory to the black people of this country".

Mr Smith, however, said yesterday that the report was "riddled with inaccuracies" and "would not stand up in a court of law". In the interview on Open 10 Question, Mr Smith said that he regarded the system of one-man-one-

vote as "the negation of democracy". He believed that most black Zimbabwean voters were illiterate and incapable of understanding the political system.

Frontline doubts: The six southern African frontline states have cast serious doubts over future US participation in negotiations to bring peace to the region (Our Correspondent writes).

A meeting of the leaders of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe in Luanda ended with a joint communiqué saying that the Reagan Administration had "forfeited its role as an honest broker".

Behind the angry statement is Washington's decision last month to supply military aid, including Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, to Unita, Dr Jonas Savimbi's rebel movement in Angola.

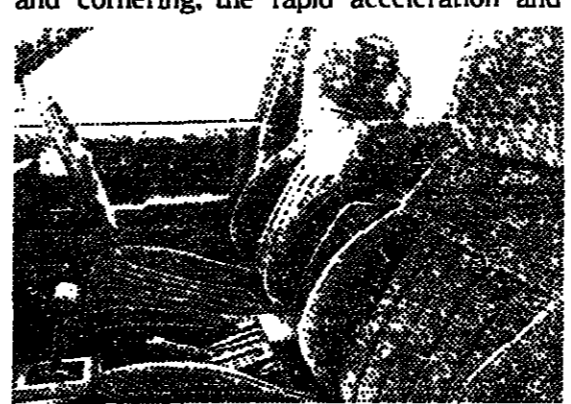
Advertisement for the new Nissan Bluebird. The new Nissan Bluebird. Moving family and business travel an important step forward.

Advertisement for the new Nissan Bluebird range. This new range of Nissan Bluebirds offers more than 20 front wheel drive models, from 1.6 to 2.0 litres, all specially developed in Britain to give higher standards of family motoring than ever before.



Table listing the new Bluebird range models: 1.6L Manual 4-door, 1.8LX Manual 4-door, 1.8LX Manual 5-door, 1.8LX Automatic 4-door, 2.0LX Manual 4-door, 2.0LX Automatic 4-door, 2.0LX Automatic 5-door, 2.0LX Diesel Manual 4-door, 2.0LX Diesel Manual 5-door, 2.0LX Diesel Estate, 2.0LX Automatic Estate.

than Sierra, Montego and Cavalier and a smaller turning circle than any of them. You'll welcome the outstandingly safe road holding and cornering, the rapid acceleration and



Sumptuous new interior with more leg and head room.

the quiet, effortless way each Bluebird performs - the Turbo ZX will take you from 0-60 mph in 8.9 seconds. And there's a new first for Bluebirds with a 2.0 litre diesel engine that will give over 50 miles to the gallon. More Reliability Too. For reliability too the new Bluebird, soon to be built in Britain in the world's most advanced car factory, must be your first choice of family car. Because each one carries a unique 100,000 mile/3-year warranty and a 6-year anti-corrosion warranty. Those warranties mean you can go round the world 4 times without a worry - and in a new Bluebird, you'll probably be tempted to. So now's the time to make a journey to your nearest Nissan dealer. He'll show you a new range of cars that go further than ever to meet your expectations. The new Bluebird range. From £6-199.



THE TIMES DIARY

UNday clubbers

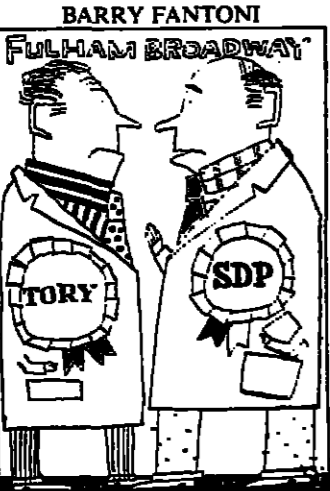
Having supported our withdrawal from Unesco, the hard right is now training its sights on the United Nations itself.

Under wraps

Hugh Dalton, chairman of Liverpool City Council, was left looking a proper charlie yesterday when he arrived at the city's Adelphi Hotel to unveil a statue of Bob Geldof.

Eastward Ho!

Although he left the prime ministerial hot seat 23 years ago, Lord Stockton hasn't finished changing the face of Britain.



BARRY FANTONI

Ready Breconer

On the eve of the Fulham by-election, a lobby journalist telephoned Labour headquarters to ask when they had last won a by-election.

Roger Liddle, SDP candidate at Fulham, tells us he has been chasing the "Fergie" vote.

Of a feather

Bird artists are sexist, according to a letter in this month's British Birds magazine.

Cover blown

Alan Clark thought he was going to be let off the hook this week. As a minister (Trade) he should loyally support the government bill privatizing the Devonport and Plymouth dockyards.

PHS

Checking out my conscience

Peter Bottomley, committed Christian and junior Transport Minister, explains his support for Sunday trading

I used to be a Sunday School teacher, and Sunday matters to me. So do the principles underlying the Shops Bill now before the House of Commons.

Q. And what of the position of the general synod, who voted 374 to one in opposition to the bill? A. I sometimes wish the general synod could get closer to unanimity on what it sees as being theological and strictly church issues.

received not one letter of that nature. Q. What about the sabbatarian argument? A. I understand and respect the argument, but I do not share it even when it comes from those who make no unnecessary use of other people's services on a Sunday.

elections in Eltham (and West Woolwich before) I never campaigned or canvassed on a Sunday. In each one nearly all my opponents did.

Michael Hamlyn reports on the ferment in Pakistan over Benazir Bhutto's return

Casting a spell - but not quite a Cory



Benazir Bhutto: a tide of popular support - but opposed by a powerful coalition of interest groups

use existing statutes to keep her out of the way. It is not too fanciful to suggest that Miss Bhutto might be removed permanently.

along with other powerful interest groups, will oppose her, just as the mullahs and the generals combined in 1977 to overthrow her father.

Richard Bassett analyses the widespread Austrian sympathy for Dr Waldheim

Turning a blind eye to history

up in the words of a Benedictine monk who said that if Waldheim was good enough to become United Nations secretary-general he is clearly eligible to be Austria's president.



Waldheim: one crucial question he fails to consider and desperate to survive could afford to do little else.

unlikely to stir any interest among either the landowners or the tribal chiefs. There is nothing for them in her campaign, and by and large they are doing well out of the present political set-up.

Students and workers are a more reliable warp for the magic carpet to power. But even here she cannot count on general support.

It is the poor and underprivileged who are the Bhutto constituency. These are the people who cheered the late prime minister when he admitted to a religious charge of anti-Islamic drinking.

Further, the hanging of Mr Bhutto has left a collective feeling of guilt among many Pakistanis.

Miss Bhutto will be greeted by a crowd of hundreds of thousands when she flies in. Her aim must then be to demonstrate that the support she receives on her arrival will continue, compelling the government to negotiate with her.

forget what happened there; not out of any shame but simply because war dehumanizes all who take part.

Many Austrians fought courageously on the Russian front during the war. Four Austrian divisions were annihilated at Stalingrad.

The Allies, who occupied Vienna for 10 years after the war, were at pains to rebuild a demoralized state which would eventually act as a buffer between East and West.

Ronald Butt

Each-way loser for the Tories

The government has reached that point in the life of every administration when achievements are taken for granted and all attention is focused on faults and failings.

What cannot be doubted is that the government's present unpopularity, encouraged by its self-inflicted wounds in the Westland affair, but rooted in the failures of provision and organization of the schools and hospitals, is creating conditions in which such a fundamental change is possible.

In such circumstances, Mrs Thatcher's uncompromising style, an asset in such times of crisis as hyper-inflation, or the almost insurrectionary threat from the miners' strike, does not attract support.

They fear that such a victory would create a new momentum for the Alliance which would help it to sweeping victories in next month's local elections and even to a victory in the Ryedale by-election.

What is more, if the Alliance were the principal threat, it would be a much more difficult enemy to fight than Labour.

moreover... Miles Kington

A takeover overtaken

There is no column today, as we have sold all the space to protagonists in the takeover wars.

A message from Slingings International to all United Cupcake shareholders. Ignore the ridiculous Allied Drinks bid.

After all, what does Allied Drinks know about the cupcake business? Nothing, that's what.

Slingings, on the other hand, can sell anything. We can even sell patronizing. Let's rephrase it.

The Slingings final offer is 650p a share. Accept it.

A message from Allied Drinks to all United Cupcake shareholders. Blimey, have you just read that Slingings ad? Pitiful, isn't it?

Slingings here again. Just keeping in touch with United Cupcake shareholders. Only a brief word, as we have said it all already.

Just to show we mean business, we're prepared to offer 690p a share, but that's final. We'd stop reading now, if we were you.

The Tories do not know; they would rather have to deal with the old Labour enemy with its self-discrediting extremists and unpopular policies than with the will-o'-the-wisp Alliance.

Yet there is also danger for the Tories in this line of thinking. Fulham is the kind of seat the Alliance must win as Labour's replacement if it is to be more than a receptacle for centrist and temporary protest against the Tories.

Against this, a good Alliance result at Fulham (a natural seat for Labour despite its partial gerrymandering) would be a massive blow to Labour's claim to be the natural alternative to the Tories.

It is a dilemma for the Tories. For the longer term, they must wish to see Labour replaced by a moderate social democratic party which could interchange with the Tories in the American style.

In Fulham, will a significant part of the working-class and council estate vote which supported the Tories last time turn to the SDP? To what extent will some who had thought of voting Tory reluctantly to keep Labour out decide that the SDP is the better bet?

A message from Megabix to United Cupcake shareholders. Are you tired of the petty bickering between Slingings and Allied Drinks? We surely are.

Accept the Megabix bid. Then we can all go home.

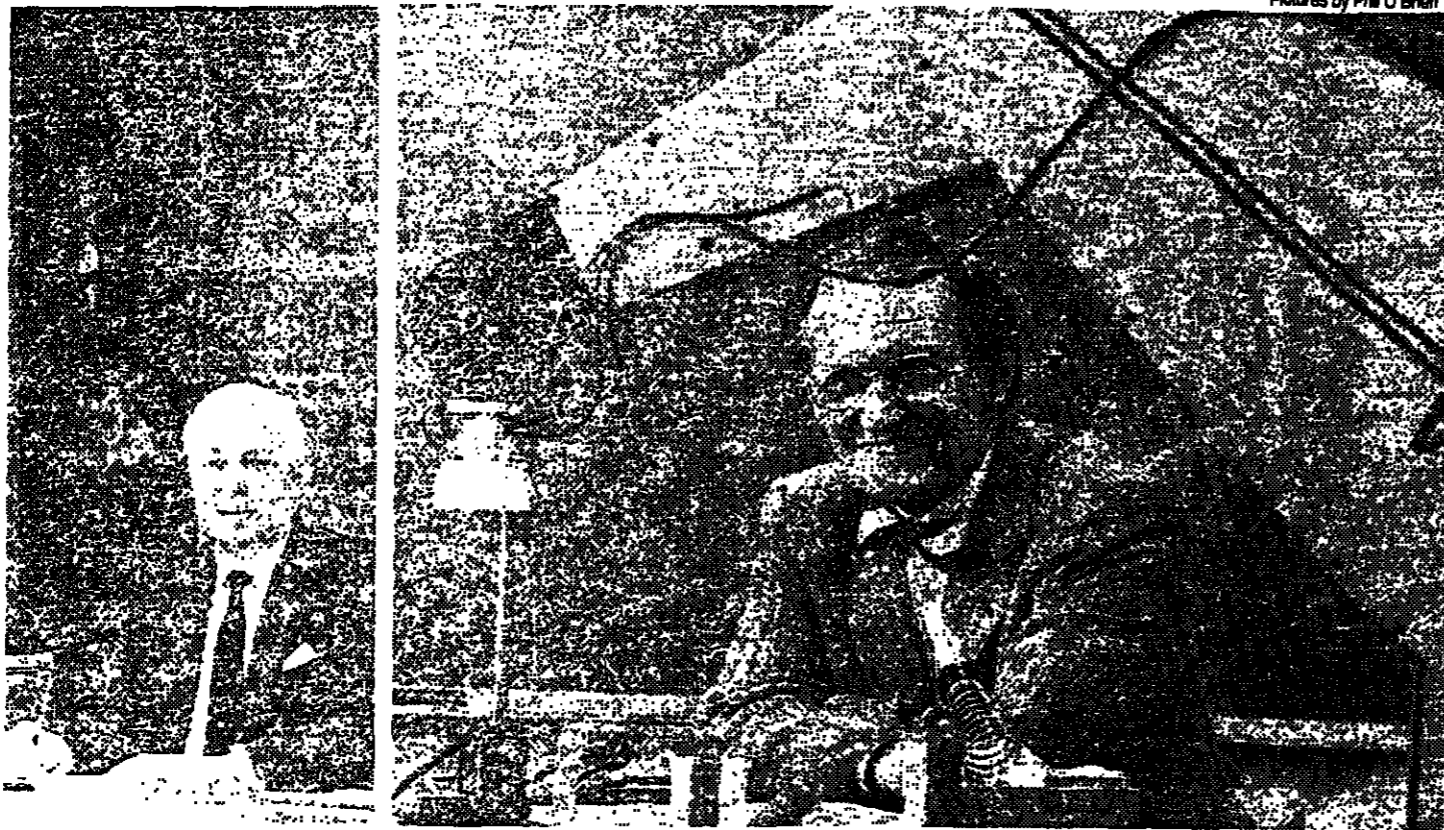
A message from Slingings-Allied Drinks. Yes, you read right. While you were reading that pathetic message from Megabix we merged to form the biggest cheap calculator/fizzy drink conglomerate in the world.

Accept the final Allied Drinks offer of 680p a share. Together we can rule the world.

Slingings here again. Just keeping in touch with United Cupcake shareholders. Only a brief word, as we have said it all already.

Now, if you'll excuse us, we've got more cupcakes to make.

A message from Moreover Enterprises. This column has suddenly become free tomorrow for more takeover bids.



Dr Basil Weedon, university vice-chancellor and portrait of Nottingham's Jesse Boot, and Professor Nigel Corlett of production engineering and production management with robot

Nine schemes that put hi tech on the shop floor

The Government's Green Paper on higher education may have been reviled by most academics in most universities but it was met with undisguised pleasure by Nottingham's engineering faculty. It has been doing for a long time what the Government recommended — building close links with industry, equipping undergraduates with marketable skills.

Professor Peter Fell, dean of the faculty and professor of civil engineering, says: "Some of us are slightly amused by the fact that politicians and others recently seem to have discovered something called links with industry. If you don't have these links, it's like trying to teach medical students without a teaching hospital."

The close relationship with industry underpins the faculty's work. Professor Nigel Corlett, professor of production engineering and production management, says there is a mutual interest. Industry needs to develop its capacities to become more competitive and engineering students

need to know about the current state of competition.

Professor Corlett has four teaching companies established between his department and industry. Altogether there are nine such company schemes in and around the engineering faculty. These are joint schemes whereby the university hires a team of graduate engineers or scientists to work on problems of the company's choosing in industrial conditions. The team is tutored where necessary by the department.

This is a means of transferring advances in technological development made by the university direct to the shop floor. One teaching company, TI-Cox, makes motor vehicle seats and is trying to compete with the Japanese. Five assistants have been hired.

Another — and perhaps more controversial — way of developing the close links with industry is by academics becoming involved in an enterprise themselves. This has happened in civil engineering

where Professor Fell was approached by the international firm of consultants, Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, because of his expertise in road and pavement engineering.

To begin with a teaching company was formed to apply the university's technology to business. Since then Professor Fell and the company have set up a separate company, a small consultancy called SWK Pavement Engineering in the city's science park. It is owned jointly by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, by the university and by one of Professor Fell's colleagues.

The company has been going for less than a year and has already been given jobs to do. Evaluating, for example, of the runways and taxiways of Heathrow airport, and assessing how soon and what sort of maintenance is to be carried out.

Another teaching company is getting going in reinforced plastics in the department of mechanical engineering. Professor Michael Owen, professor of mechanical engineering, says: "Unless academics make the transition between research laboratories and industry, the work done in the research labs is not going to be sellable to industry."

Professor Owen's department has had a special relationship with the Ford Motor Company since the firm first became a sponsor in 1962. This has produced research mainly concerned with reinforced plastics and engines, and the university's researchers have been investigating, for example, moulded car engine parts.

In the field of robotics there are two major projects: the development of sensors using ultrasonics instead of video cameras; and the use of robots as machines rather than as handling systems. The latter enables a project to be supervised and manipulated on screen. The technique is being used in the cutting of crystal glassware.

There are eight departments in the faculty and all the courses have been restructured in recent years to meet the recommendations of the Finiston Committee and the Engineering Council. The faculty won six "new blood" posts and was awarded money under the Government's scheme to shift students from arts to science.

Knowledge centre for the people

Founded by Royal Charter in 1948, Nottingham was Britain's first new university after the Second World War. There had for a long time been on the site a university college on the site which had been teaching external London degrees.

This had in itself been some achievement because it had been established in 1881 by the burghers of Nottingham. For local people to decide to build and develop an institute of higher education was unprecedented.

According to Dr Basil Weedon, the university's vice-chancellor, it meant that there were links with the local community from the earliest days and a solid commitment to adult education. Hugh Gaitskell taught adults at the university college before the last war, and D. H. Lawrence was one of the university's most illustrious, if awkward, alumni.

Nottingham was the first university to have a department of adult education and the first to

inaugurate a chair of education. It has 15,000 adults a year on short courses.

After the First World War came the big move to a proper campus three miles outside the centre of Nottingham thanks to the generosity of Sir Jesse Boot, later Lord Trent and founder of the Boots company. The university, now with nearly 7,000 students, is still on this site though much bigger in size.

It is a middle-sized university with a spread of seven faculties which, despite the commitment to adults, exists primarily to teach school leavers. It is, however, in common with other universities, becoming more involved in what is known as continuing education — updating adults and giving them professional qualifications.

Last month Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, visited the campus to launch a management development project for adults. Nottingham has a grant from the

Government's Professional Industrial and Commercial Updating Programme (PICKUP).

The university has a higher proportion — 59 per cent — of science students than any other university, reflecting its early origins as an institution serving the people and industry of Nottingham.

A large slice of its research income comes from industry — about £1.5 million of the annual £6.9 million — and the university is holding three open days to show how the work of the university relates to industry.

These are being held on April 25 and 26 on the main campus, and on April 28 at Sutton Bonington, where the agricultural science faculty is housed, and they mark Industry Year locally.

There are historic close links with Boots, the chemists, Allied Lyons and other companies.

The National Coal Board has a close association with the mining engineering department and the

current university chancellor is Sir Gordon Hobday, a former chairman of Boots and Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire. The university has established nine teaching companies.

The 1981 spending cuts affected Nottingham less badly than some universities. There was an 11 per cent reduction over three years in real terms and the university responded by reducing the number of staff by 80 through natural wastage and early retirement.

Since then, however, the university has been busy restructuring and attracting funds under the Government's "new blood" scheme for new appointments. This has enabled it to recoup most of the cuts it suffered in 1981, although not in the same places.

Dr Weedon said the faculty of engineering emerged stronger than it had been because of this. Nottingham received a total of 20 new "blood" posts plus one

information technology post. The new "blood money" went to create six new jobs in engineering, four in agricultural science, seven in science, two in the social sciences and one in the arts. The university receives £429,000 extra a year as a result.

The 1981 letter from the University Grants Committee to Nottingham said the university had to contract by 6.3 per cent. This represented a cut of 370 in home students (medicine was excluded because, as a new department, it was still growing). But this reduction in numbers has been eased, and the university took an extra 106 students in each of the last two years, without extra funds in response to the pressure of demand.

Dr Weedon was sad that the UGC letter insisted on a cut in the social sciences because he said the faculty also included economics, psychology and industrial economics.

The UGC had also told Nottingham,

the home of Boots, to cut pharmacy but the university argued its way out of this.

Many of Nottingham's 7,000 students live on the campus in halls of residence close by the academic and administrative buildings.

There are 14 halls and they are possible the closest any redbrick university comes to the Oxbridge college system. Most are single sex and the social life of the university tends to revolve around them.

A total of 3,000 students live in hall and all first-year students are guaranteed a place in one.

Nottingham has done its best to attract overseas students to try to boost its income: it has students from Hong Kong to do courses in education as well as a group of Algerians on a planning course. Like many other universities it had to go to Hong Kong to recruit the Chinese students. Change came hard and fast, but Dr Weedon said the university coped well.

For Jesse Boot, education was always more than secondary



The founder of Boots believed that higher education was essential — both for the exploration of the frontiers of knowledge and for the greater success of industry.

Such a belief underpinned Jesse Boot's benefaction of land and money to the University of Nottingham, over 100 years ago.

This act was typical of his sense of community responsibility, and reflected his deep-seated conviction in the power and necessity of university education.

Such a conviction continues in the Boots of today, where graduate trainees are recruited every year — another example of the essential relationship between industry and education.



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Scientific approach to feeding the world

The school of agriculture is set apart from the university, at Sutton Bonnington, 12 miles from the main campus. Originally the Midlands College of Agriculture, it has a strong international reputation with a commitment to research in the Third World, and close links with industry.

There are three departments within the faculty of agricultural science: agriculture and horticulture, physiology and environmental science and applied biochemistry and food science. Students, of whom there are 117 a year, take a three-year degree course with a strong emphasis on science in their course with increased specialization in the areas of plant and crop production, animal physiology, and environmental and food science.

The school has 80 postgraduate students and research spans a broad range of subjects. One of them is a project funded by the Overseas Development Administration to

these were studied at Sutton Bonnington.

Early on attention focussed on the importance of high temperatures and limited water supply as factors restricting production of crops. Work in the glasshouses established the relationship between temperature and the rate of crop development, pinpointing a minimum, optimum and maximum temperature beyond which development stopped.

But there were important differences between crop varieties and the scientists were able to select those which did well at high temperatures. They have developed several lines of sorghum which are able to withstand high temperatures. The ODA unit believes that this is because they have larger root systems in relation to the size of their shoots above ground. These strong plants are also able to roll their leaves to ensure minimum exposure to the sun.

reproduction". Professor G.E. Lamming, who is directing this research, is looking at endocrine changes associated with the mechanism of early pregnancy in cows. The object is to see whether defects in these mechanisms are responsible for the high rate of early miscarriages in cows.

An *in vitro* group has been established to investigate ovarian development and function at the cellular level in sheep, pigs and cattle and thus extend endocrinological studies carried out *in vivo*.

A particularly important facet of the faculty's work is the food science department in which research is centred on protein and polysaccharide interactions in the determination of food growth.

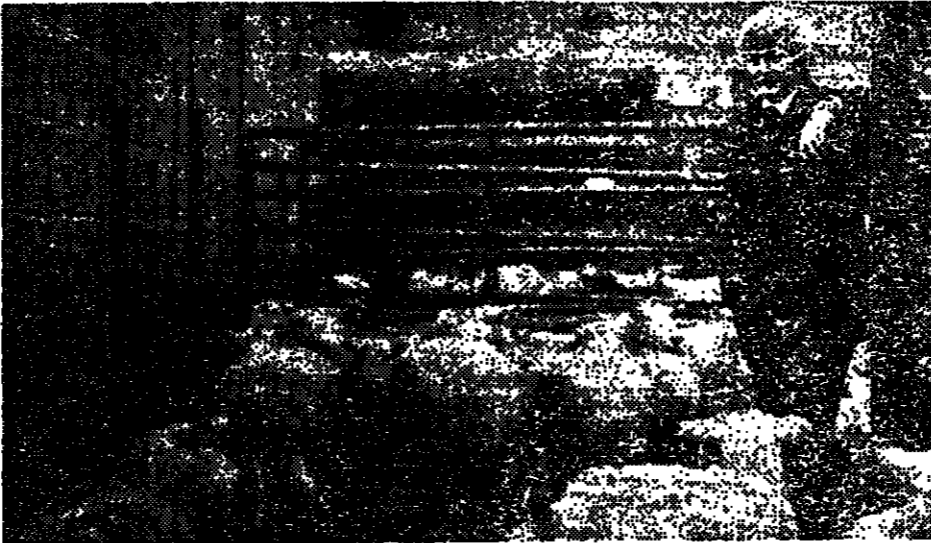
Dr Don Grierson and his team are investigating the triggering of the complex cascade of events which turn a hard green tomato into something soft, red and mouth-watering.

Mining work is funded by NCB

The Science and Engineering Research Council Biotechnology Directorate, the research will suggest new ways in which ripening can be manipulated. In the longer term, it will also provide a better understanding of plant gene expression which is important not only in fruit ripening but also in many other areas of food production.

Professor Dick Whittington and his colleagues are carrying out research into the restoration of opencast coal mine sites and the reclamation of colliery spoil and stone quarries. The coal mining work is funded by the National Coal Board and some of the research has concentrated on earthworms which are known to be important to soil fertility and soil development.

The stone quarry reclamation project is sponsored by Amey Roadstone Corporation for a period of four years. A quarry is being reclaimed in the Welsh border lands through growing wild plant species rather than trees. This has proved successful.



Learning from plants and animals: Prof W.J. Whittington (top), of agricultural botany, examining cotton plants; Dr Will Haresign (centre), lecturer in sheep production; and Prof Ted Cocking, dean of science faculty

Lasers throw a new light

Nottingham's science faculty is the largest in the university and arguably one of the most distinguished academically. It has 2,000 undergraduates and about 250 postgraduates, most of whom are involved in research for higher degrees.

Professor Ted Cocking is dean of the faculty as well as head of the botany department, which has a plant genetic manipulation group. Representing one of the most exciting and rapidly developing areas in science, the unit is funded by the Science and Engineering Research Council, the EEC, the Rockefeller Foundation for work in rice, the British Technology Group, Leverhulme Trust, the Overseas Development Administration and industry.

The group has recently formed a unit for flow cytometry in a joint venture with the British Technology Group and this will be involved in the application of fluorescence activated cell sorting for plant biotechnology.

It will enable plant breeders to collaborate with the university to keep Britain in the forefront of new cell fusion and tissue culture procedures for crop improvement. Nottingham's group has been the first in the world to produce a range of new hybrid plants by plant protoplast fusion.

All this work comes under the heading of biotechnology and is carried out in conjunction with other faculties. A biotechnology group has been formed with Professor Cocking as chairman, drawing together the faculties of science, engineering, medicine and agriculture.

The university has a flourishing department of pharmacy, saved from the UGC's axe at the eleventh hour, which has common thread links with other departments in the faculty.

Research in the pharmaceutical sciences is directed towards extending our knowledge of disease processes and the mechanisms by which drugs act to cure or prevent disease and mental disorders. The design of phar-

maceutical agents incorporates a number of stages including the study of the molecular basis of drug action.

With more than 350 undergraduates and 100 researchers, the chemistry department engages in long-term fundamental research as well as applied work with industrial companies. In the former category, the university is famous for its work on lasers.

The chemistry department uses lasers to understand how chemical reactions occur. There have been detailed investigations, for example, in the laboratory of unusual molecules and ions, some of which have been detected in Halley's Comet. Scientists have also been examining the way that simple molecules, such as water, are destroyed by ultra-violet light. This is important in understanding atmospheric chemistry and pollution.

Laser work also includes finding out the pathways of speed of catalytic reactions in

A first in new hybrid plants

which is relevant to the chemical industry. All this work has attracted worldwide interest and has been supported by the research councils, industry and the EEC to the extent of £750,000 during the past few years.

Within the psychology department is Nottingham's Child Development Research unit with its dual research and training function. It is run by John and Elizabeth Newson who have established a reputation for their long-term longitudinal study of child-rearing and child development. This involves interviewing parents in their own homes and observing children at play.

But the unit also helps the parents of children who are developing anomalously or who are handicapped.

Arising from the longitudinal study, the unit is collaborating with a research team from the University of Lesotho to document the upbringing of one-year-old children in a different culture.

Crucial differences in crop varieties

study the effects of environmental factors on the production of millet, groundnut and sorghum (tropical cereal grass).

It is directed by Professor J.L. Monteith, a Fellow of the Royal Society.

This is particularly topical work, given the drought and famine of the past few years, which has highlighted the devastating combined effect of erratic rainfall and high temperatures on food production. Ten years ago a multi-disciplinary team of a microclimatologist, two crop physiologists, a soil scientist, an electronics engineer and two technicians began work at Sutton Bonnington.

They had their own greenhouses in which crops could be grown under tropical conditions, but their brief was to work closely with crop physiologists at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) near Hyderabad in India. Field experiments were carried out at ICRISAT, and specific questions arising from

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This research is assisted by projects carried out at Britain's universities.

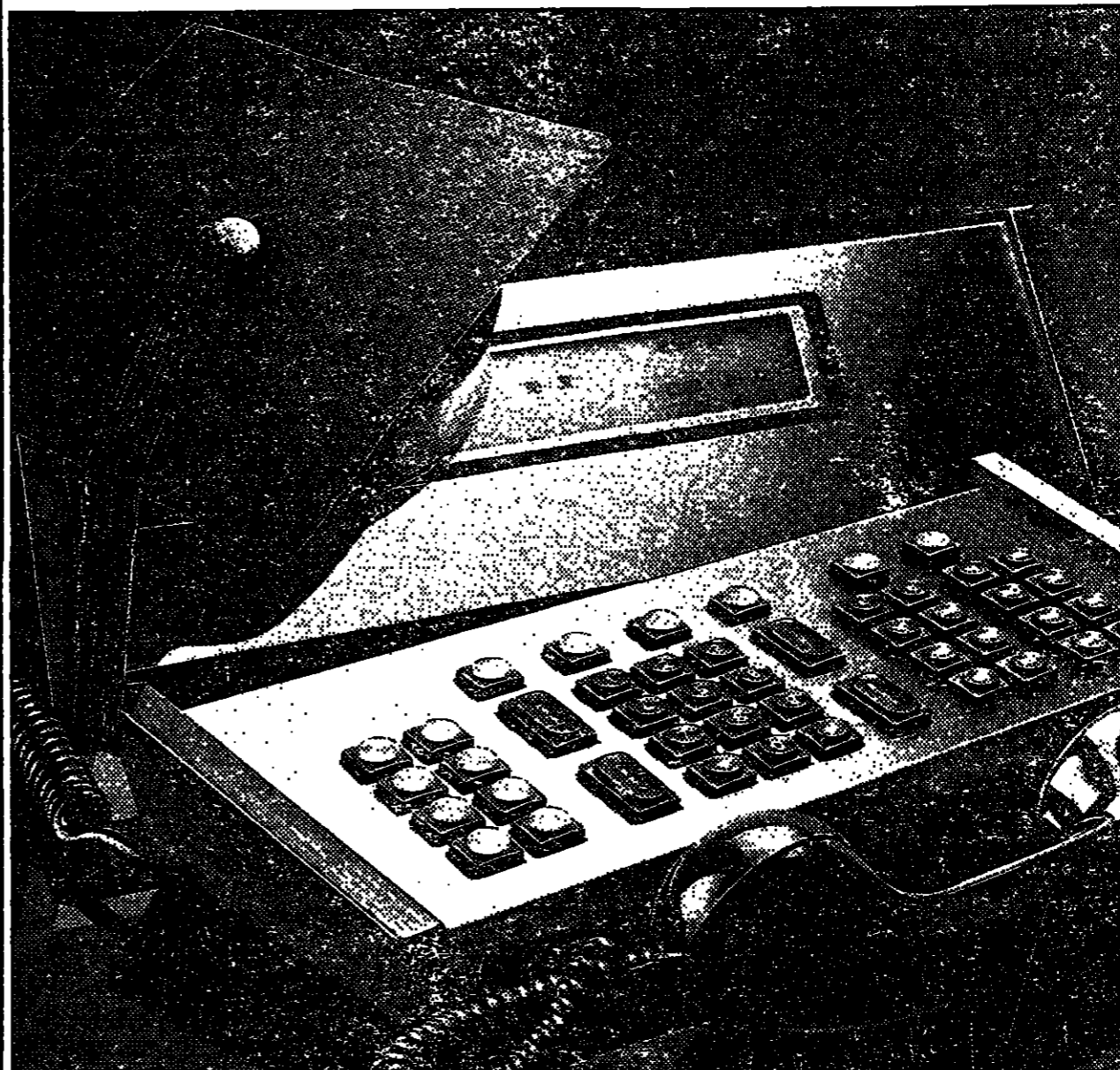
There is a traditional close link between the NCB's Technical Department, who operate the world's

leading mining research establishment at Stanhope Brethby in the Midlands, and Nottingham University, located in the heart of a coalfield.

Joint research projects sponsored by the NCB, include the development of systems for micro-computer based mine planning, strata control and underground ventilation.

This continuing research liaison assists the NCB's strategy to produce low-cost coal and the university's involvement with a major national industry.

NCB National Coal Board



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Bringing business to academia: John Webb, industrial liaison officer, at Highfields Science Park

Strong link with industry

Nottingham University is no newcomer to industrial liaison. It has had an industrial liaison office since 1969 and the current industrial liaison officer, John Webb, has been in the post for the past two years. In addition, Highfields Science Park has opened recently on the university's doorstep, providing opportunities for industry to capitalize on the academics' know-how.

The industrial liaison office takes a low profile. It is there to introduce the inquiring industrialist to the appropriate academic or the inquisitive academic to the right industrialist, but thereafter the intention is to intervene as little as possible.

In addition there is a business manager's office whose

prime concern is to help academics with copyright and contracts when they come to do business with the outside world. Mr Webb is also in charge of the university's involvement in the science park. Nottingham's Science Park is new. It is the brainchild of Nottingham City Council and it opened to its first tenant in December 1984. The university has put no money into it, but some of its academics are involved in companies which have been established in the park. The university's facilities are available for use by the park's tenants.

The building, erected beside the university, was put up and paid for by the city council at a cost of £1.25 million. There are 14 units varying from

1,000 to 5,000 sq ft and all but one are now occupied.

The companies in residence are mainly associated with electronics, computing and software and four of them have strong links with the university. Mr Webb says the park has been a success and that the university has acted as a honeypot attracting people to the site.

The companies with university links include BYG Systems Ltd who sell robot simulation software and have sprung out of people who work in production engineering at the university. Warwick Instruments manufactures electronic medical instruments and have produced a printed circuit board manufacturing facility. This came

out of the medical faculty workshop where Warwick Adams used to be one of the technicians.

Hasp (Europe) Ltd makes computer systems for surveying and land management and is run by a former graduate who has a close relationship with Professor Thomas Atkinson, professor of mining engineering. The fourth company is SWK Pavement Engineering Ltd which has close links with the department of civil engineering.

The park has found it easy to attract computer companies to the site but is keen to establish a biotechnology company in the second phase. This will be a lot more difficult because it is much more expensive to set up.

Pioneers survive unhealthy cuts

The first school of medicine to be established in the United Kingdom this century was at Nottingham University. Everything was built from scratch in 15 years, but the new hospital and medical school had the misfortune to come into being in the 1970s when the cold wind of financial stringency was beginning to blow.

The Queen's Medical Centre, of which the medical school is an important part, has never really known a time without financial hardship. But because it was conceived as a pioneering institution designed to change the face of medical education, it has made its mark.

It has also substantially upgraded the health care of the East Midlands, which in the 1960s was 30 per cent below the national average in consultant staff.

The University of Nottingham had always wanted a medical faculty and the Queen's Medical Centre was sparked off by a National Health Service proposal in 1962 for a new district general hospital in the city.

It was a joint venture from the beginning between the university and the NHS, and as such was unique.

The Queen's Medical Centre includes Nottingham Hospital with 1,300 beds, the medical school, the Nottingham School of Nursing and the Nottinghamshire School of Radiography.

Now 140 medically quali-

fied men and women are trained each year and given the kind of integrated education recommended by Sir George Pickering's medical school advisory committee.

Medical students are taught community as well as hospital based aspects of medicine in what is the shortest clinical course in Great Britain.

It lasts five years and includes an honours year for all students. Within this tight timetable all students spend one month being taught about all aspects of care of the elderly. Many medical students in Britain still get little training of this kind.

Mental handicap is a central part of the curriculum and Nottingham has established

Medical students are taught community and hospital aspects

the second academic department of studies into mental handicap in the country.

According to Professor Tom Airy, professor of health care of the elderly, the bulk of the school's students want to be GPs. They come to a medical faculty aimed at the needs of the community, and concerned with the commonplace and lowest-prestige areas of medicine.

Professor Tom Featem, professor of physiology, says that the attitude of Notting-

ham students to geriatrics is quite remarkable. It is the most popular clinical attachment.

He adds: "People are attracted to the way we teach community medicine."

The course is based on an integrated approach. The disciplinary boundaries common in conventional medical science are obscured. Students meet patients during their first term and within six weeks are expected to be talking to patients individually about their illnesses.

In the first two years students receive a basic medical science course, followed by one year of science attached to one of the medical science departments.

In that year they do a research project lasting about 14 weeks and at the end of their first three years they receive a science degree. The idea is to initiate them into the philosophy of research and show them how to conduct it.

Students learn how to do collaborative research during the honours year.

Collaboration between departments is a feature of the medical school born of the necessity for academics to work with one another when the school and hospital were being established.

The medical students live on campus with other students from the university, another feature which distinguishes the school from conventional medical schools

Research on the influence of drugs diet and hormones

and on the functional activity of specific organs.

Others are investigating macromolecular mechanisms involved in protein turnover, control of gene expression, and glycoprotein synthesis including changes induced in the synthesis of membrane glycoprotein in malignancy.

The latter work is being carried out with the departments of surgery and cancer research and is leading to the development of monoclonal antibodies for use diagnostically and in therapy.

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CENTRAL

Clearer image of the human body

Nuclear science: Prof Peter Mansfield with magnetic body scanner

Physicists at Nottingham University are making important breakthroughs in medical imaging by nuclear magnetic resonance. This enables medicines to look inside the human body and use the techniques pioneered at Nottingham as a supplementary aid to diagnosis.

The technique is particularly useful for coronary artery disease, tumours and congenital heart abnormalities in babies. The man behind its development is Professor Peter Mansfield who first described medical imaging by nuclear magnetic resonance in 1973. He has won international recognition from the Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and has a Royal Society Wellcome Foundation medal.

Since the early 1970s he and his team, who have attracted more than £1 million in funds from the Department of Health and Social Security and the Medical Research Council, have been experimenting with a machine to increase the speed of imaging. This would make the application of the technique much more economical because many more patients would be dealt with in a day.

Professor Mansfield believes that the economics of imaging would then become realistic. It is already possible to produce images rapidly enough for them to be made into real-time cine film, though the resolution is not yet as good as that of still images.

The main advantage of NMR over other techniques for clinical investigation is that it does not carry any hazards. It does not need injections, the passage of tubes, nor does it rely on X-rays.

NMR images are different from those produced by X-irradiation and ultrasound, which effectively create a two-dimensional shadow, depending on the absorptive properties of the tissues. NMR signals, on the other hand, depend on the nuclei present and their physico-chemical environment.

Bone does not get in the way of NMR images, making the technique especially useful for imaging the brain, spinal and pelvic organs. Tumours can be localized by NMR because the chemical environment of the nuclei in the tumour is different from that in normal tissue.

And, unlike other methods, NMR images can be created in different planes, enabling the size and extent of tumours to be determined accurately. This means that doctors can decide whether a tumour is operable and what type of operation should be performed, or whether it is too close to vital tissue to enable it to be removed.

NMR can distinguish tumour from oedema, an accumulation of fluid. It can also enable doctors to distinguish haemorrhage, resulting, for example, from a head injury from oedema. It is therefore useful as an aid to treatment.

In the brain it is possible to detect the lesions of multiple sclerosis so that a diagnosis can be made early. The NMR image of a blood vessel may vary in relation to the flow of blood within it and this may enable doctors to see where the blood flow has been blocked by a clot, and hence to diagnose and treat strokes and heart attacks.

At present the research follows two lines: the development of the technology so that better images can be produced; and the evaluation of NMR as a technique for clinical diagnosis and for monitoring the response to treatment. Commercial machines are being evaluated by the DHSS with a view to use in the National Health Service.

Working out the right figures for good business

Science is not the only area which is examined for its applications at Nottingham. The university has combined its insurance, economics and accountancy work to form an Institute of Financial Studies under Professor Brian Chaplin.

The institute is engaged in fundamental as well as applied research and supports itself with sponsorships from companies such as United Kingdom Provident. The university considers itself to be well placed to undertake financial research.

It has the only chair of insurance studies in the country, sponsored by Norwich Union, which donates money to the university. This is occupied by Professor Bob Carter and operates in the department of industrial economics, accountancy and insurance.

There is also an endowed chair in banking, sponsored by the Midland Bank, in the department of economics.

Last year chartered accountants Spicer and Pegler, together with Barclays Development Capital, sponsored the setting-up of a new management buy-out research unit at Nottingham. The £60,000 sponsorship covers a three-year programme and Ken Robbie has been appointed research fellow.

The purpose of the unit is to establish a database of completed management buy-outs and conduct a study into the effects of management buy-outs on company performance. The two sponsoring companies want down-to-earth guidance on what others have already experienced, what makes a buy-out viable.

The teaching in the two departments of industrial economics, accountancy and insurance, and in economics, is predominantly undergraduate. There are about 50 undergraduates in each of the two departments each year - 300 altogether. Degrees carry full exemption from professional accountancy exams so there are a lot of students who want to become accountants.

On the insurance side, the university is not unique. It runs a two-year diploma in insurance studies with the City University in London principally for overseas students.

The first research project of the Institute of Financial Studies was in the personal financial services sector, which provided a profile of the thinking and attitudes of the industry.

A number of other projects are in the pipeline, including a series of seminars on developments in financial markets for the local business community.

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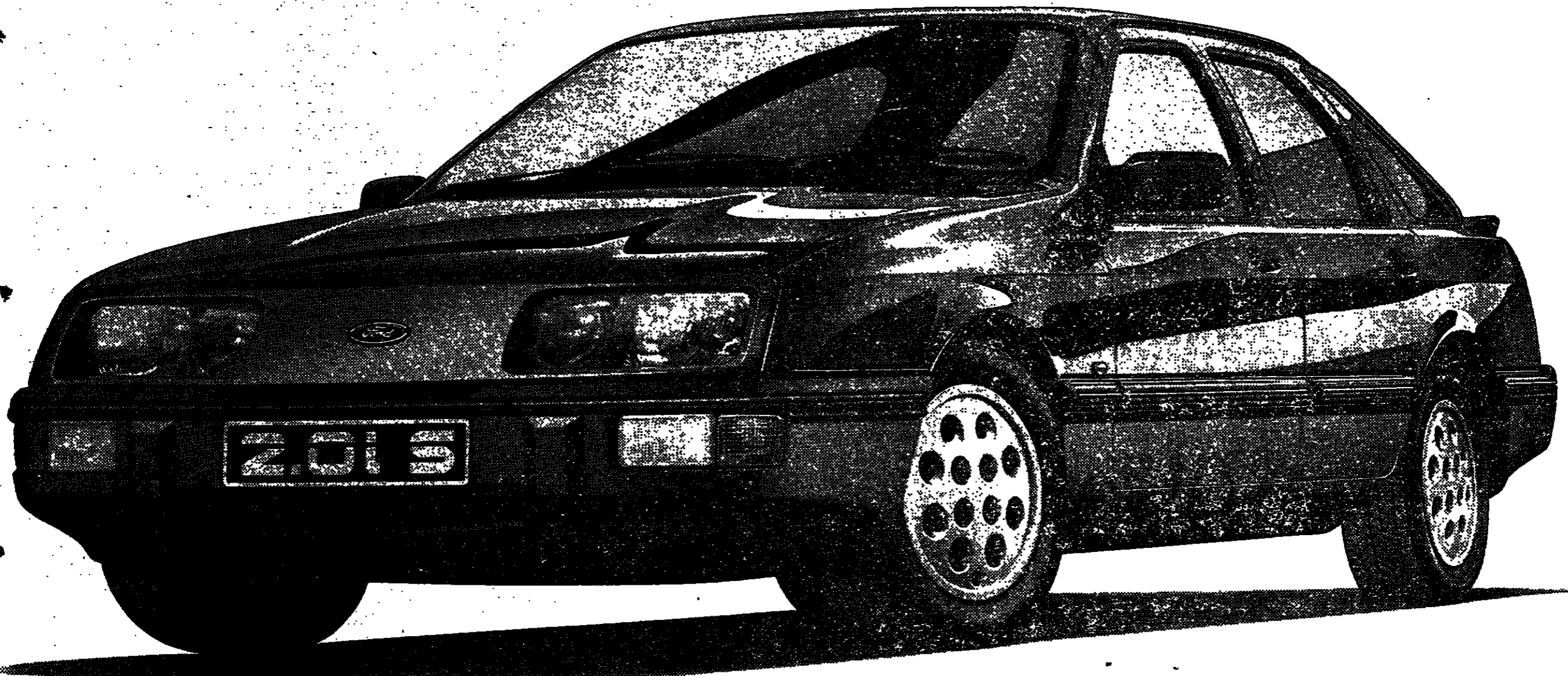
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THE ARTS

Television Addicts of the ultimate lethality

Last night's episode of The Four Horsemen (Central) was entitled "The Masters of War" - the masters, on some occasions, being the advertising agents who market a variety of weapons...

Some of the facts are available, however: it seems that 20 per cent of the world's scientists are engaged in military research, and that 50 per cent of British government research is in the area of weaponry...

Peter Ackroyd

Theatre Irreconcilable clash between affection and property

Romeo and Juliet Stratford

Shakespeare ends Romeo and Juliet with the pious thought that the lovers' deaths have patched up the family feud. That is not how Michael Bogdanov sees the events...

The extraordinary effect this has is to turn the play into the tragedy of Friar Laurence. The lovers take their doomed course. The elders pursue their obsessive line...

The Beaux' Stratagem Lyric, Hammersmith

On Tuesday night the Lyric's heaving went on strike as we huddled around the tiful glow of Farquhar's swan-song. Those to the left of the stalls had also to contend with a rogue PA speaker...

Clarity of thought however, in the sense of emphasizing particular dramatic threads, of making this Queen Anne tapestry come off the wall and do something, is sadly lacking here. Archer's prologue on the merits of the satire to come contains the odd information that we live "under Maggie's sceptre"...

Not a bit of it. Paul Freeman

him with tremendous practical gusto, earning applause when he hauls them back from the brink. And, when he is finally defeated and abandons Juliet, it is his collapse into a panic-stricken self-saver that arouses your pity, not the lyrical farewells of the young. Whatever your view of that, it certainly saves the play from the decline that often besets it after Mercutio's death. Also, Mr Bogdanov is at pains throughout to present it as a drama of the streets and domestic bustle, infected as little as possible with the sickly sweet odour of the tomb...

It is needless to say, a modern-dress show, with a cigar-smoking Capulet buzzing for Peter from his marble desk and crocodiles of bicycles drunkenly weaving away from the Capulet disco. A rock band plays most of the night away, joined by Tybalt (on saxophone) and Mercutio (on electric guitar). It sounds a crashing cliché, but again and again it is rescued by long chains of scenic invention. The duel is marvellous: with Michael Kitchen (Mercutio) sizing up to Hugh Quarshie's chain-swinging Tybalt with a walk-

and David Rintoul are just another pair of charming rogues off a chocolate-box lid. Paul Humpolez is firstly a beer-bore and then just a bore, Patsy Byrne chirruping away gamely but to no great effect, and Timothy Barlow, eccentrically cast as Gibbet, stands and delivers his lines as though he had strayed into the wrong play.

Anna Cartaret uses her commanding voice to inject some dignity into the role of Mrs Sullen, but her exchanges with Paula Wilcox's Dorinda lack tension. Peter James's production needs sharpening up - it needs some gear changes. This is especially unfortunate in that the play does contain plenty of genuinely funny lines which have survived the centuries with their meaning intact, but which here are denied the chance to breathe.

The overriding problem is the deadening lack of pace which leaves one looking for the snap and crackle that the script demands. When Sullen (Ken Stott) makes his first entrance in a slow, stiff daze one cannot but think that his hangovers have set the tone for the whole production.

Martin Cropper



Marvellous duel: Hugh Quarshie's Tybalt (top) and Michael Kitchen's Mercutio

Vasco Finborough Arms

"What is it that makes a flower pretty?" asks the eponymous hero of this tiresome French piece. The fellow is what used to be called an innocent, a breed that seldom surfaces in English drama but used to be thick on the ground in foreign parts. Convention fits the innocent with a gentle and trusting nature, naivety bordering on the imbecilic and the undying love of a maiden. Vasco has all these, and you just know none will be any use to him as he picks his unsuspecting way through the minefield of life and war.

The play is by Georges Schehadé and, when Jean-Louis Barrault staged it in Paris 30 years ago, audiences became so agitated that he had to take it off after 47 performances. The programme says "only 47" but the wonder is that Barrault was showman enough to keep it going so long.

Vasco is a barber, and the only young man left in his village. Why has he not joined the army like all the others? No one tells us. What are his views on war, or indeed on anything except the fall of a ringlet? This being a work of "poetic style and lyricism", such mundane clarities are not available to us.

The lad is drawn into the fighting, accepting injustices that hurtle down upon him as if they were all part of a day's snipping. Suicide missions. A forward post manned by women. Enemy intelligence disguised as chestnut trees. Simon Turner's fresh-faced youth at least makes this trying cipher a picturesque figure, though Vasco's assumption of an heroic role is made abruptly and without clear motive. Perhaps he wanted to impress the girl who mysteriously dreams about him. Or her father, a scholar obsessed with crows.

Wendy Leston, the director, tries to jolly the proceedings along when Vasco looks at himself in his mirror, the chestnut trees behind him to catch their own reflections. The colours are cheerful. Bill Homewood does some kind of Gielgud take-off. Daniel Foley's sergeant makes a neat recovery from a multiple tongue-twister.

And the use of simple sets and props for different scenes is resourceful. The table becomes a well. Things happen behind screens. But the anger at militarism is feather-light and a cast made up of one simpleton and numerous eccentrics is a company one hurries away from with emotions of relief.

Jeremy Kingston

Much Ado About Nothing Heaven

This night-club, underneath the arches at Charing Cross, is an aptly-named venue for a play to do with making marriages. The barely-raised stage in the black and chrome Star Bar is hung with racks of dress patterns (why?) and a pair of red curtains on mobile racks that adapt to frame different acting areas.

The London Theatre of Imagination, whose metropolitan showing this is, following a two-month nation-wide tour, was praised for its *Othello* last year. The company's resources are small, as are its casts: eight in this case, requiring the doubling of Don Pedro (David Lear) with his brother and Hero with Dogberry - actually a Mrs Dogberry, played as a poor relative of Sybil Fawcett.

LTI's stated policy is to involve, delight and disturb the imagination. Laudable aims. Its other plank is to work without a director. How the scenes evolved their final form I cannot say, since all co-operatives co-operate, but some are more co-operative than others. The poorly-imagined scenes provoke the worst performances, and vice versa, but then they would, whether deriving from communal decision, common indecision or a lone director's diktat.

The Dogberry scenes are very poor, and the villain's arrival squashed into a supermarket trolley raised not a titter. These scenes have to be better, to work in their own right and to create a tolerable balance to the crises developing in the main plot.

The company's strength and achievement lies here, in the delightfully witty exchanges between Beatrice and Benedick that somersault into discoveries of love and then to his mature recognition that love's obligations require him to duel with Claudio. The Church scene explodes across the comedy with an excitement that is almost terror, charged by the passion of Kilian McKenna's Claudio, untinged by grief.

Beyond him stands Clive Kneller's Benedick, frozen in astonishment and doubt. Kneller is an accomplished and intelligent young actor with a wide vocal range and the mobile face of a clown. We earlier see him dressed as a tree with his bark unpeeling as he shuffles through a maze in pursuit of news of Beatrice.

Mulraun suggests that her carefree gaiety is more forced than his, and it is both funny and touching to watch her overtake him by love's confusion. On several occasions, centering around this engrossing Church episode, with its declaration of love, false accusation and remorse, the performances give us that tingling sense of a real theatrical event - without a director.

J.K.

John Percival introduces the work and achievement of American Ballroom Theatre, who open a season of transatlantic dance with a difference at Sadler's Wells this evening

Partnerships supreme

Pierre Dulaine and Yvonne Marceau demonstrating the skills that have made them four times British Exhibition champions



When New York City Ballet gave a special performance for young people at the end of their last Lincoln Center season, they had an unexpected pair of guest dancers: Pierre Dulaine and Yvonne Marceau. Balletomanes will mentally run down company rosters in vain trying to locate them. Followers of ballroom dancing will be more familiar with the names, because they have been four times British Exhibition champions.

Dulaine, neat, lithe, quiet-spoken, is half English, half French, with an accent to match. He was born in Palestine just before the British mandate ended, was brought to England and grew up in Birmingham. Moving to London as soon as he could, he developed an obsession with competitive ballroom dancing.

A few years back he settled in America almost by chance. He had worked his way across on a cruise liner and was invited to fill an unexpected vacancy teaching at the Arthur Murray school in New York. "Why not, just for a few weeks?" he thought, and has stayed ever since. He started dancing with Yvonne Marceau in 1976. Her background was in classical ballet and Dulaine too went to ballet classes, not to incorporate it in their ballroom work but as a form of discipline and training.

are moving towards a similar point but from the other side. He points also to the immense success that the show *Tango Argentino* has enjoyed in New York. Adding "I don't want to knock it - it's a very good show, but I think perhaps some people are disappointed when they find it isn't all dancing, that there is a lot of singing and music too".

American Ballroom Theatre's show *Sheer Romance* is all dancing and finds a degree of variety within the genre, from the Astaire-type of white-tie number to the South American style, from a Spanish gypsy influence to a waltzing finale. The various couples taking part each have a special affinity for one or other mode and are featured accordingly, but with all of them taking part in every section of the programme.

Dulaine insists on the importance of partnerships as the basis of the work. "When we were negotiating with Brooklyn Academy of Music to take the show there, they said 'There'll be eight dancers then?' and I replied 'No, there'll be four partnerships. It takes a long time to learn to dance together well'."

"Although the films of Fred Astaire are an inspiration, we are not doing that kind of dancing. Astaire did it with tap dancing, we use ballroom dancing with lifts. Astaire had his big solos; in our kind of dancing, partnering is everything. It's not just technique. We want to use it to create a romantic atmosphere."

They began with a short try-out New York season, five performances in October 1984 at Dance Theater Workshop's small Bessie Schönberg Theatre on West 19th Street. "Rather to our surprise it was a great success, and this was our first time on stage together as a company." Enthusiastic notices in *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice* and *The New Yorker* helped clinch further engagements including invitations from Brooklyn Academy, Sadler's Wells and France.

Meanwhile, Pierre Dulaine is quite proud that his partnering skills have put him on the faculty of New York City Ballet's School of American Ballet as a guest teacher. After all, he began with ballroom dancing before he learnt ballet, and he thought ballroom lessons would help the students with their partnering. "The first time I went there, I started by asking the students to just to wait across the room. And, do you know, they couldn't do it properly?"

Philharmonia/Muti Festival Hall

It is difficult to warm to the art of a man who greeted the First World War's outbreak with the words "the masses need to be shaken". But in 1904, when Scriabin wrote his Third Symphony, "Le Divin Poème", his bizarre *son et lumière* experiments, his personal cosmic crusade to regenerate mankind, and most of the literary output that would be called monstrously pretentious, several ranks of woodwind players, Scriabin, like that later

lay in the future. In any case, this Russian egomaniac was always much better expressing himself in music than in Nietzschean poetry. So it is quite possible to enjoy the Third Symphony simply as a securely crafted, colourfully scored and abundantly passionate tone-poem. Its middle movement, "Voluptés", is an especially ravishing concoction of inspired violin melodies, barely audible horn chords, lapping harp arpeggios and - most strikingly - a profuse, exhilarating chorus of bird-song from several ranks of woodwind players.

Jeffrey Swann is an American pianist with a big sound and a penchant for big music, if his London debut, which included all four of Liszt's *Mephisto Waltzes* as well as the *Mephisto Polka*, was anything from which one might judge him. Like too many of his school, he did not always succeed in conveying the subtlest meanings behind the plethora of notes in such pieces. You could not doubt his power, though, and it was a remarkable achievement to get through all of these strange, diabolic fantasies and survive as well as Swann did. It was a pity that he chose to reduce Bartók's *Out of Doors* Suite to exhibitionism, and hence missed its more lyrical aspects; nevertheless he is a pianist of great talent, very much in the grand tradition.

You might reasonably expect Hu Kan, a Chinese violinist and protégé of Yehudi Menuhin, to be an artist in fairly similar vein, and so he is, as his scintillating performance of Tartini's "Devil's Trill" Sonata showed in all its full-blooded drama. But Kan can also complement his glossy, big tone with straightforward, honest musicianship, the kind that a work like Prokofiev's Second Sonata positively demands. A similarly direct though not at all inexpressive approach was apparent in Fauré's A major Violin Sonata, Op 13, where

Concert

admirationly balanced, so that a single flute could emerge from a morass of eight horns in harmony. The pace was artfully varied and Muti elicited much rich string tone. Itzhak Perlman's playing of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto is a well-known miracle, in no need of my endorsement. Perhaps to atone for some extravagant, though deliciously executed, portamenti in the first movement, he articulated the finale's passagework with a clean, glittering brilliance that will long stay in the memory.

London débuts Undoubted power

Kun sensibly did not try to obscure the mystery or Gallic charm within the music by overplaying his own personality. He offered a curiosity, too, in the form of the Chinese composer Ju Xiaosong's *Girl of the Mountain*, derivative perhaps from Debussy and Ravel but impassioned music bristling with the sheer joy of invention. Jeffrey Gilliam was the excellent pianist.

The Patterson Wind Quintet are already the most seasoned of performers, as their recital made abundantly clear. Whether in the endearing earnestness of Milhaud's *La Cheminée du Roi René* or in the obsessive, nervy obligato

tos of Edwin Roxburgh's Second Wind Quintet, or indeed in the flavoursome Three Antique Hungarian Dances of Ferenc Farkas and Ligeti's Six Bagatelles, everything they did was highly polished yet at the same time sounded almost unnervingly spontaneous. And nowhere were they more entertaining than in Paul Patterson's *Comedy for Five Winds*, a brilliantly executed piece of witty writing that ended the evening in light-hearted exuberance.

Stephen Pettitt

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Lawson urges rich nations to stand by agreed policies

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, yesterday urged the industrialized nations to commit themselves to published policies on interest rates, exchange rates and inflation as a means of sustaining world growth. The Chancellor's address to the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund offered a specific means of carrying out the recommendations of the largest industrialized nations that policy indicators be considered as the next step in reforming the world economy.

Setback at Caparo

Heavy losses at Fidelity, the radio company, pushed pretax profits at Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries last year down to £950,000 from £2.7 million. Without the problems at Fidelity they would have topped £5.7 million, Mr Paul claims.

Pearl up 13%

Pearl Assurance's net profits for the year to December 31 rose 13 per cent to £14.55 million. A final dividend of 28.75p was declared, making 44p for the year compared with 38p for 1984.

Smiths rises

Smiths Industries, the aerospace and medical equipment supplier, lifted profits from £20.2 million to £22.9 million before tax in the 26 weeks to February 1. The interim dividend has been increased from 1.5p to 1.75p.

Broker jumps

Stewart Wrightson, the insurance broker, made taxable profits in 1985 of £18.7 million, a rise of 35.4 per cent. The dividend was raised 22.2 per cent to 11p.

Belhaven deal

Belhaven Brewery Group is to acquire Dolemore Holdings, wines and spirits distribution business for £15.0 million through the issue of 1.72 million Belhaven shares.

BHP writs

BHP has issued Supreme Court writs in Australia against several companies, including the Bell Group, and against Mr Robert Holmes a Court, alleging breaches of securities industry codes and seeking divestiture of shares.

No payout

Dwek Group is passing the dividend for 1985 despite returning to profits, but it is considering a payout this year. Pretax profit for the year was £130,000, compared with a loss of £177,000, despite a fall in sales from £16.51 million to £14.36 million.

Stock issue

London & Provincial Shop Centres is issuing a £15 million debenture stock at £99.951, with a coupon of 10 per cent.

Cowells leaps

Cowells, the Ipswich-based specialist printing group, raised pretax profits last year by 52 per cent to £26,000 - topping the £750,000 forecast made at the time of its arrival on the USM.

Boost for big theme park plan

By Derek Harris Industrial Editor WonderWorld, Britain's most ambitious but much-delayed theme park project, has secured Chase Manhattan, the American bank, to put together the £150 million financing for the first phase of the project at the old steel town of Corby in Northamptonshire.

Japanese surplus soars to \$52bn

Japan's trade surplus hit new heights last year, even by its own extraordinary standards, leaping 50 per cent from 1984. The record surplus was more than \$52 billion (£35.5 billion), the first time the surplus has topped \$50 billion. Exports totalling over \$182 billion were up by 7.7 per cent, the biggest increases being in cars and communications equipment. Imports, in contrast, showed an embarrassing drop of 3.3 per cent at a time when Japan is seeking to convince the world that it is serious about increasing them.

Half-point cut in Tokyo discount rate likely

Japanese monetary policy, now intended to operate "more flexibly", is likely to involve an early half-point cut in the official discount rate, currently 4 per cent. Such a cut, which would be the third this year, will be guaranteed if the yen shows any signs of strengthening. The yen's 35 per cent rise to 180 against the dollar since last September has put the squeeze on parts of Japanese industry not unlike the great contraction of British industry in the strong pound days of 1980-81.

£46m Turner rights call

Turner & Newall is raising £46 million by way of a 1-for-4 rights issue at 175p a share, which represents a discount of 24 per cent to its current price of 231p. The proceeds will be used for expansion, either by acquisition, or investment in fixed assets. The main areas of expansion will be the United Kingdom, America and Europe.

Securities licence for surveyor

Jones Lang Wootton, one of the world's biggest chartered surveyors, has taken out a licence to deal in securities, and it is now a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers and Investment Managers. The move has been prompted by the threat of big bang. Many of the merchant banks and financial conglomerates are trading on the toes of the surveyors who have had a grip on the property investment market. But, as deregulation looms and new forms of funding investments in large City of London offices and a multitude of retail developments become an urgent matter, surveyors are having to look to their laurels.

Profits fall at Alcan

Lower profits for 1985 were announced yesterday by British Alcan Aluminium which dominates aluminium smelting and fabrication in Britain. Pretax profits fell from £49.8 million to £43.5 million. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the ruling body for the profession, has its own regulations about how firms may operate. J.L.W. says that it does not foresee any difficulty complying with RICS regulations after joining Nasdim, but the matter is still under discussion.

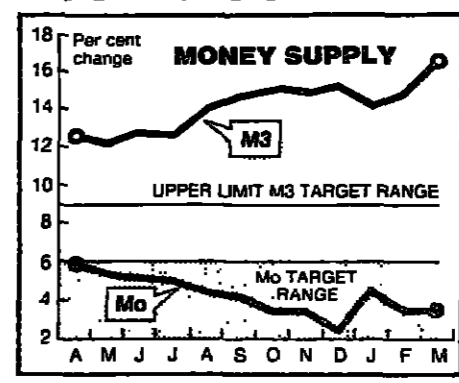
City pact near on trading in international securities

The Stock Exchange and the International Securities Regulatory Organization (ISRO) are close to reaching agreement on the formation of a Recognized Investment Exchange/ISRO. This would entail the creation of a single self-regulatory organization to govern the diverse areas of activity undertaken by ISRO and the exchange. Mr Ian Steers, chairman of ISRO, said yesterday that the two parties had reached an "agreement in principle" on the question of a joint Stock Exchange/ISRO exchange. He said: "We have agreed to form a Recognized Investment Exchange and are now working out the ways and means in which it will operate. We are having detailed discussions on matters such as the appropriate machinery and trade dealing equipment."

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Two-way stretch on interest rates

Yesterday's money supply figures were not the way the market was hoping things would go after the Budget. The steep rise in Sterling M3 of 2.25 per cent in March caught most of the City's analysts by surprise and seemed an obstacle to another early fall in bank base rates. But the messages beamed from the Washington meetings, of a general international decline in rates, at least acted as a distraction. The M3 result implies an annual growth rate of 16.5 per cent - an unfortunate figure the month after Nigel Lawson jacked up the target range for M3 to 11 to 15 per cent in the Budget for this fiscal year. Rather as in March last year, though, the analysts were probably caught out by the phasing out of capital allowances from April 6. This almost certainly contributed to the surge in bank lending in banking March to £2.6 billion, compared with £1.52 billion in February, as companies borrowed early to take advantage of the higher allowance.



Belhaven deal

Belhaven Brewery Group is to acquire Dolemore Holdings, wines and spirits distribution business for £15.0 million through the issue of 1.72 million Belhaven shares.

Profits up by 24%

Table with 3 columns: 1985 (£'000s), 1984 (£'000s), and % change. Rows include Turnover (72,933 vs 51,587 +41.4%), Trading profit (12,627 vs 9,958 +26.8%), Profit before tax (11,735 vs 9,458 +24.1%), Earnings per ordinary share after tax (8.28p vs 6.95p +19.1%), and Dividend payment per share (3.25p vs 2.85p +14.0%).

Profits fall at Alcan

Lower profits for 1985 were announced yesterday by British Alcan Aluminium which dominates aluminium smelting and fabrication in Britain. Pretax profits fell from £49.8 million to £43.5 million.

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MARKET SUMMARY. Includes sections for STOCK MARKETS (New York, Tokyo, Nikkei Dow, etc.), MAIN PRICE CHANGES (RISERS, FALLS), CURRENCIES (London, New York, etc.), INTEREST RATES (London, Prime Rate, etc.), and GOLD (London, etc.).

BODDINGTONS' BREWERIES PLC Results for the year to 31st December 1985 Profits up by 24%. Includes a table of financial results and a list of points made by the Chairman, Mr. Ewart Boddington.

This advertisement is published by N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited and J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited on behalf of Hanson Trust PLC. The Directors of Hanson Trust PLC are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of their knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts. The Directors of Hanson Trust PLC accept responsibility accordingly.

+

18.2 p

(A small reminder: our best offer is now higher than the Imperial share price by the amount above.)

Our offer next closes on April 11 at 5p.m.

H A N S O N T R U S T

The above figure represents the difference between the value of the Hanson Trust share and convertible stock election and the value per ordinary share of Imperial Group. The values are based on market prices at 3.50p.m. on Wednesday and take account of an estimate by Hoare Govett Ltd. of the value of the 10 per cent convertible loan stock of Hanson Trust. The value of the convertible stock is estimated because it will only be listed in the event of the offer becoming unconditional.

Handwritten note: *18.2 is 1.25*

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "The Ro of Sco" and other partially legible words.

TEMPUS

Pearl seeks assurance in a new setting

In a good year in the life assurance business, premium income grows by 20 per cent; in a not so good year, it grows by 10 per cent. With these words, James Elmslie, deputy chairman of Pearl Assurance, summarizes the attractions of its main business.

The increase in the dividend from 38p to 44p for the year is welcome. However, solid evidence that the underwriting losses are under control will be needed before the shares are likely to perform strongly.

Smiths Industries

Most companies complain about the effects of exchange rate volatility but few have as good cause as Smiths Industries. Not only have sharp currency movements restricted reported profits growth to 13 per cent against an underlying increase of more than 25 per cent, but they have also made it seem that turnover fell slightly.

New Opec fears hit prices again

Oil prices have been sent downwards on fears that the North Sea oil strike may not interrupt Norwegian supplies enough to persuade the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to adopt lower output quotas next week in Geneva.

Money supply figures send share indexes tumbling

Government stocks again claimed the spotlight in an otherwise dull stock market yesterday as dealers anticipated further cuts in interest rates.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Dealers are looking for profits of around £23 million, £3 million below last year. Renishaw jumped 16p to 334p after comment and Ash and Lacy were lifted 16p to 405p on further reaction to Tuesday's results.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns for EQUITIES and RIGHTS ISSUES, listing various companies and their share prices.

Comment on Tuesday's results lifted Kwik Fit 7p to 107p. Stakks hardened 2p to 76p after a press mention but the Hot Sam acquisition clipped 5p from Rowntree at 483p.

American connection cuts fashion profits

A sharp cut in earnings at French Connection's American subsidiary cut deeply into the fashion group's profits for the year ending January 31.

Interest Rate Change

Allied Irish Banks plc announces that with effect from close of business on 9th April, 1986, its Base Rate was decreased from 11 1/2% to 11% p.a.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc Revolving Budget Accounts. The Royal Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from 10 April 1986 the rate of interest charged on overdrawn balances will be reduced from 23% to 22% p.a.

RFD rejects £22m bid

Wardle Stores, the plastic sheeting manufacturers, launched a £21.9 million bid yesterday for the diversified RFD Group, whose products range from parachutes and lifesaving equipment to specialist textiles and cable components.

Blagden Industries PLC

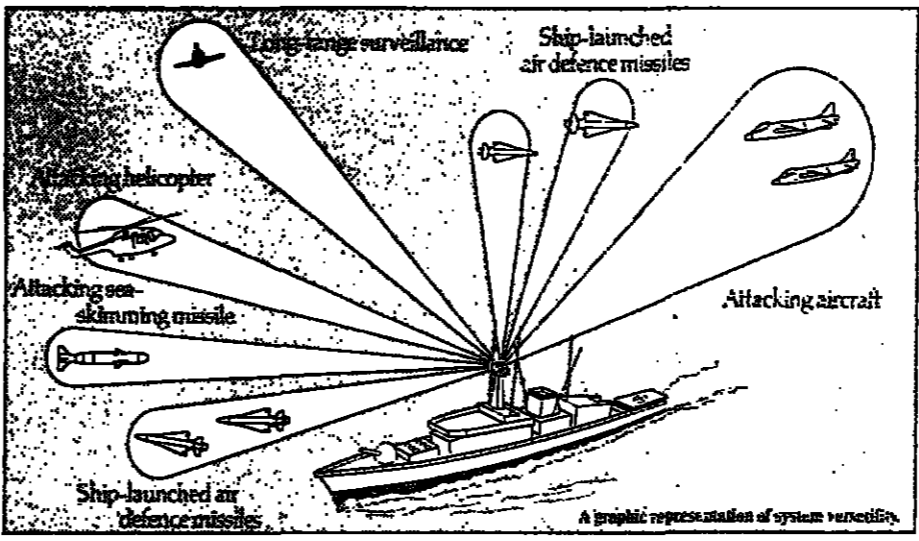
Table showing Results for year 1985 and 1984 for Blagden Industries PLC, including Turnover, Profit before taxation, Profit after taxation, Dividends per share, and Earnings per share.

REPUBLIC OF GUINEA PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE

In the third quarter of 1986, the Secretariat d'Etat aux Travaux Publics will issue an invitation to tender, after prequalification, regarding surface dressing and reinforcement of 360 km of paved road, financed by the International Development Association (I.D.A.).

PLESSEY HOTLINE

Multifunction radar for the future



VOTE FOR ISDX

Plessey ISDX, the digital exchange that got the vote for both Houses of Parliament last October, is now being installed in another section of the Whitehall network.

Advertisement for Plessey technology, featuring the Plessey logo and the slogan 'Technology is our business.' It mentions the Plessey symbol and ISDX as trade marks of The Plessey Company, plc.

Mobile data for Antwerp police

Another mobile data system contract from the Antwerp Police Department in Belgium has been won by Plessey. The equipment consists of a central message control computer, special terminals to operate over radio, communication controllers and outstation hardware.

LOW-COST BIPOLAR CHIPS

Plessey Semiconductors has announced low-cost versions of its popular SP1648 and SP1658 high speed bipolar integrated circuits for computers and peripherals, instrumentation, telecoms and radio communications.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Notice is hereby given that the 172nd Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held within the Head Office, 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 6th day of May 1986 at 2.30 pm for the following purposes:

WALL STREET

New York (Reuter) - Wall Street stocks jumped higher yesterday from Tuesday's strong close, with investors becoming more bullish over prospects of lower interest rates.

Lambert said. Scattered buy programmes and weaker oil also boosted prices. The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 34 points on Tuesday, was up 15.44 points to 1,785.20 at one stage early yesterday.

The transport average rose 6.13 to 794.53 and the utilities average was up 1.23 to 188.86.

Table of stock prices and market movements for various companies including AMR, Delta, Eastern Air, and others.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of exchange rates for various currencies, including Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, Dollar Spot Rates, and Euro Money Deposits.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for items like SUGAR, COFFEE, SOYABEAN, RUBBER, and various metals.

COMMODITIES (continued)

Table of commodity prices for LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, ALUMINIUM, and LONDON MEAT FUTURES.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table of Canadian stock prices for companies like Alcan, Inco, and Noranda.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table of gold prices, gold futures, and other money market data.

FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of various financial futures contracts, including interest rate and currency derivatives.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts, including equity, income, and international funds.

FINANCIAL FUTURES (continued)

Table of financial futures and related market information, including bond and currency futures.

Handwritten note: '10/11/86' and other scribbles.



To find out why you should accept
the Argyll offer, call me free of charge.

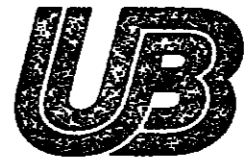
Call James Gulliver, by dialling 100 and asking for Freefone Argyll offer.

هنا من الاصل

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UB's offer for Imperial closes at 3pm tomorrow.

The latest prices should help you make up your mind.



Imperial's share price.

344.0p

UB's best and final offer.

363.6p

UB's offer higher by:

+19.6p

Based on market prices at 3.30pm on Wednesday, 9th April 1986.



Final acceptances for the UB offer must be received by 3pm Friday, 11th April 1986*

United Imperial

THE VALUE OF UB'S OFFER DEPENDS ON ITS SHARE PRICE. THE ABOVE OFFER VALUE IS FOR UB'S ORDINARY SHARE ALTERNATIVE AND TAKES ACCOUNT OF AN ESTIMATE BY ROWE & PITMAN AND WOOD MACKENZIE & CO LIMITED, BROKERS TO UB, OF THE VALUE OF THE NEW CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED SHARES. THE VALUE OF THE CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED SHARES IS ESTIMATED BECAUSE THEY WILL ONLY BE LISTED IN THE EVENT OF THE OFFER BECOMING UNCONDITIONAL. *UNLESS THE OFFER HAS BECOME UNCONDITIONAL AS TO ACCEPTANCE.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check four right share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page...

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various industrial and building & roads stocks.

Weekly Dividend table with columns for Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun, Total. Includes a note: 'Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.'

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various fund names.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

UNDATED table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

ELECTRICALS table with columns for No., Traded, % P/E, High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, % P/E.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various electrical and other stocks.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Drab session

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 1. Dealings end tomorrow. Contango day April 14. Settlement day, April 21. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'BREWERIES'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'BUILDING AND ROADS'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'FINANCE AND LAND'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'FOODS'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'CHEMICALS, PLASTICS'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'CINEMAS AND TV'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'DRAPERY AND STORES'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'INDUSTRIALS A-D'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'HOTELS AND CATERERS'.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E. Contains various stocks under the heading 'INDUSTRIALS E-K'.

THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000. Claims required for +45 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

PROPERTY table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

SHIPPING table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

TEXTILES table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

TOBACCO table with columns for No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E.

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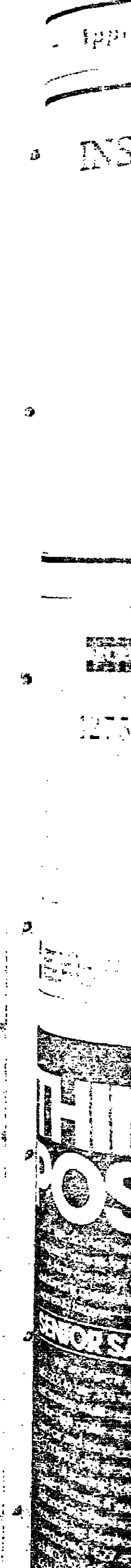
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Table with 5 columns: No., Company, 1986 High, 1986 Low, Price, Change, % P/E.



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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

Though there is now general acceptance that the United Kingdom urgently needs many more well-educated and trained graduate and technical engineers, it has proved difficult to generate effective action to meet this requirement. There is still a lack of understanding of the wide range of activities affecting almost every aspect of our daily lives, to which professional engineers make an essential contribution; for example, the offshore oil and gas operations in the North Sea and their distribution network, the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and buildings, the provision of clean drinking water, the coal industry, electricity supply, transport by air, land and sea, agricultural and food processing industries, telecommunications, the manufacture of almost everything we use including refrigerators, radio and television sets, washing machines, pharmaceutical products and chemicals, and of dental and medical equipment. Many financial services, too, such as banking and insurance, are now almost totally dependent on efficient computer systems and communications. There is also the contribution of

engineers in the armed forces, maintaining complex equipment, and the work of Britain's world-competitive consulting engineers who design and manage major civil, mechanical and electrical engineering projects for clients in all parts of the world. Their foreign-exchange earnings last year totalled £572 million. In all these activities, engineers contribute their skills to research, design and development, to economical manufacture and maintenance and to marketing many products and services all over the world, as well as to general management. In addition a debate continues on the type of engineer the country needs to meet this formidable and diverse range of activities, and whether the present engineering degree courses should be extended to include more business studies. Many believe, on the other hand, that the prime need is for a new type of multi-disciplinary systems engineer who is capable of spanning several of the traditional technologies and applying them to a wide range of activities, taking account of the profound impact of the new computer technologies in the 21st century. In a sense we are aiming at an accelerating target

Great Britain needs top engineers but does little to ensure a steady output of them. Viscount Caldecote suggests solutions



whose trajectory is unknown, and success is made difficult by the long reaction time of our education system. Engineering degree courses have traditionally been three years long, supplemented by two years of practical training and two or three years of professional development under the supervision of a chartered engineer. But it may no longer be possible to encompass all the new technologies adequately in three years, however intensive the courses may be. Four-year courses, or three years plus a

specialized fourth year, are thought to be essential, requiring more resources. Probably a mix of these schemes together with short courses and distance learning techniques for re-training, is most likely to meet the broad needs of industry and people's varying aptitudes. **B**ut the cost of educating engineers is substantially higher than for many other professions because of the need for modern equipment which must keep pace with the rapidly developing technologies

in, for instance, new materials and advanced manufacturing processes. Staff experienced in the new technologies, and who are able to teach design and manufacture, are in short supply. In schools there is a severe shortage of good teachers of mathematics and physics and this problem is exacerbated by the apparent inability of the educational system to react to the laws of supply and demand by paying enhanced competitive salaries to people qualified in these fields; a rather surprising situation after six years of government by a party devoted to a market-led economy. We are facing a problem which has been growing for several decades and is becoming acute. Its solution will require a larger allocation of national resources than the £43 million over three years which is being made available by the Government for engineering and technology places in higher education. The Engineering Council is struggling with all these problems and is making constructive steady progress. But though the Prime Minister herself has indicated her support for the work of the

council, the administrative machine, both in Whitehall and academia seems, to resist change at the rate that is needed. A significant factor is, I believe, the shortage of influential top-level civil servants with a real understanding of the role of engineering in the economy and the urgency of making whatever changes are needed. Though more than 20 years ago the Fulton Committee recommended that steps be taken to remedy this deficiency in civil service recruitment, nothing effective has ever been done. Yet the fault is not all with Government. There is still too little appreciation in industry of the contribution which high-quality engineering manpower can make. Pay and career opportunities are often inadequate, in comparison with those in other professions. The image of themselves which engineers create is another important factor. In the past we have too often been seen as being more interested in working on exciting engineering projects than in making money by selling them in a competitive market. All these factors make it more difficult to improve the supply of

well-qualified engineers, and it was with such issues as these in mind that the Fellowship of Engineering was formed 10 years ago. The Fellowship is concerned with the promotion of excellence in all aspects of engineering, especially by recognising the highest standards amongst engineers themselves. It aims to be for engineers what the long-established and influential Royal Society is for scientists, an institution existing to help engineers to serve the community more effectively and to which every young chartered engineer will, in time, aspire to be elected. The need for a better supply of well-qualified people attuned to this age of rapidly advancing technology is not in doubt. So if we are to maintain our position in the world we must give all possible support to those who are working to solve these problems, whether in centres of education and training, the professional engineering institutions, the Engineering Council or the Fellowship of Engineering. *The author is President of the Fellowship of Engineering.*

— Appointments Phone: 01-481 4481 — — Appointments Phone: 01-481 4481 —

INSURANCE CONTROLLER

***Salary c £21,000 p.a. (Under Review)**
***Concessionary Mortgage Facilities *Car**

Following the merger of the Alliance and Leicester Building Societies last October, the largest building society merger ever, we wish to develop our insurance-related activities having regard to the proposed financial services and building societies' legislation. With this in mind, we wish to appoint an Insurance Controller to advise and guide the Society on all matters relating to life and general insurance. This is a senior management position, based at Hove with responsibility for all our specialist insurance staff. Initially, the requirement will be to ensure that the staff at all our 440 plus branch offices are trained in life insurance to the proposed licensing standards and are then provided with an expert advice and counselling service. The successful applicant will be expected to maintain a comprehensive market awareness of products and terms offered by insurance companies, with special emphasis on life-related contracts. Applicants should preferably be aged 30 to 40 and must have at least five years' relevant practical experience and be qualified ACIL. Effective communication and management skills are essential. Starting salary will be around £21,000, the exact figure depending on qualifications and experience. Outstanding benefits include a car, attractive concessionary mortgage facilities, private medical insurance and an excellent contributory pension scheme. Relocation expenses to this attractive area on the South Coast will be met by the Society where appropriate. Please send details of your age, experience, qualifications and current salary, highlighting what you believe you can offer to this job to: Mike A. Nicholson, Assistant General Manager (Personnel & Training), Alliance & Leicester Building Society, Administrative Centre, Hove Park, Hove, East Sussex. BN3 7AZ.

ALLIANCE LEICESTER

A WINNING TEAM

Join the Professionals

ROBERT CHUCK
Previous Occupation: Civil Servant
"The Civil Service was interesting but promotion was slow. Here the harder you work, the sooner you get to the top!"

ALAN DUNKLEY
Previous Occupation: Hotel Manager
"In Catering I was working long hours for very little reward. At Marlowe-Sachs I find myself in a stimulating environment where hard work pays!"

NIGEL HARPER
Previous Occupation: Teacher
"One aspect of teaching I particularly enjoyed was the opportunity of meeting people. The difference at Marlowe-Sachs is that meeting people makes money!"

PRESTON WHITFIELD
Previous Occupation: Burnisher
"I enjoy working with a team of young professionals going places. Not only do I make my client's money grow, but I've trebled my own income in just two years!"

VIRGINIA FORTESCUE
"I have worked in a variety of different service industries, and ran my own business. At Marlowe-Sachs I feel I have found my niche. Here I'm paid well, retain my hard-earned independence, and look to my main interest - making money for investors."

Marlowe Sachs are intermediaries in the field of Unit Trusts, Pensions, Investments (onshore and offshore), and Insurance. We are expanding our sales operations and require intelligent, energetic individuals aged 25-40 for our Head Office in the City.

Marlowe Sachs
28 Greville Street,
London EC1N 8SU
Tel: 01-242 2420

Computing RECRUITMENT FAIR

18-19 April 1986 Novotel, Hammersmith, London

1275 vacancies for DP professionals

Vacancies at all skill levels
Vacancies in all salary ranges
Discuss vacancies face to face with the DP professionals responsible for recruitment.

Exhibitors include:

- TELECOM
- BBG
- Dixons
- British Gas
- Citibank Savings
- Prudential
- ICL
- REDIFUSION
- Datavolve

Opening hours:
Friday 18 April 1986: 1100-2000
Saturday 19 April 1986: 1100-1800

Organized by INTRO UK Limited, Russell House, Russell Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1TQ. Telephone: 0753 838811.

HISPANOL (UK) LTD DRAUGHTSMAN

Hispanol (U.K.) Ltd., The expanding U.K. subsidiary of Spain's leading energy organisation, is at present seeking a Draughtsman to fill a demanding position within its Knightsbridge-based London Headquarters. The Company is involved mainly in exploration activities in the North Sea. Applicants should have a minimum of 5 years experience, preferably within an oil company. Highly attractive salary + perks, according to age and experience. Application will be treated in the strictest confidence, and should be sent to: Mr. A. Odrizola, Hispanol (U.K.) Ltd, 5 Prince's Gate, London SW7 1QJ.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

General Manager required for a new one off employment agency recently opened at London Bridge. As well as building your own client base the applicant will be expected to contribute towards company systems and policies. The generous salary and bonus package will be commensurate with someone who has at least two years management experience. The post also carries partnership potential after the first year. For an informal discussion please call: 01-403 7588 or 01-853 1451 evenings

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All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest confidence and should be directed in the first instance to our advising consultant, TONY PROSSER on 01-680 4013 at COMPUTER PEOPLE SOUTH, 15 Park Street, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 1YO.

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Derek E Jenkin, Financial Director.
Rimmel International,
17 Cavendish Square,
London W1M 0HE. Tel: 01-637 1621.

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BBC 1
6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank...

TV-AM
6.15 Good Morning Britain with...

ITV LONDON
8.25 Thames News...

BBC 2
6.35 Open University Cogs in...

CHANNEL 4
15 The Lordship of the Rings...

Radio 4
On long wave, VHF stereo...

Radio 3
6.55 Weather, 7.00 News...

Radio 2
11.00 News, 12.00 Cockerell...

Radio 1
On medium waves, VHF stereo...



Reese Feather, Bill Edmondson...

30.00 News, 30.15 The Evening...

30.30 News, 30.45 The Evening...

30.60 News, 30.75 The Evening...

30.90 News, 31.05 The Evening...

31.30 News, 31.45 The Evening...

31.70 News, 31.85 The Evening...

32.10 News, 32.25 The Evening...

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DANCE: THE DANCE OF THE SEVEN VEILS, THE DANCE OF THE SEVEN VEILS...

